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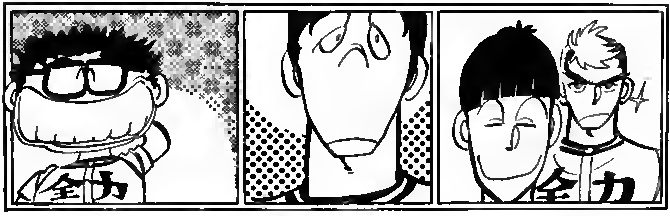
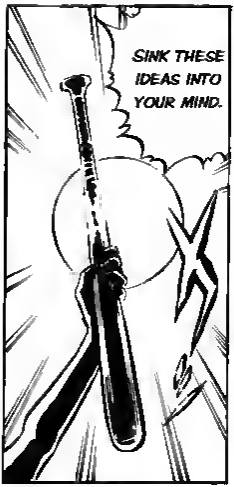
Chapter 5
Take In, But Don't Get Taken In

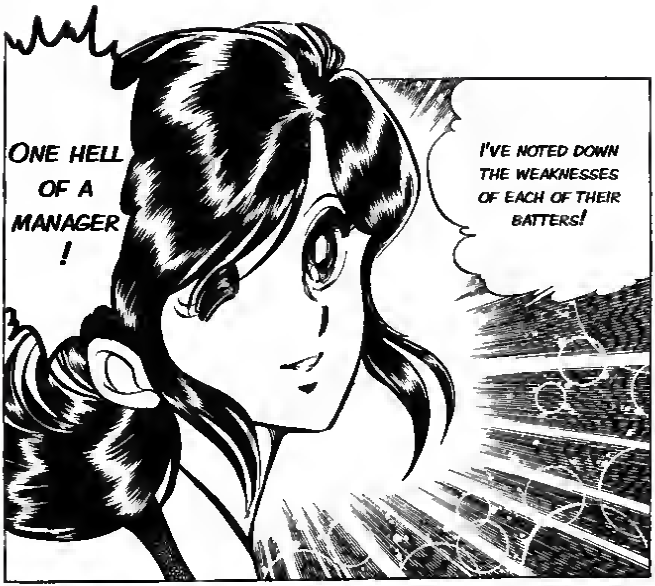


ALRIGHT EVERYONE!
REMEMBER THIS WELL!

NEXT!
TO SPOT THE PITCHER THROWING A CURVEBALL, HIS JOINTS CURVES BEFORE THROWING A CURVE BALL AGAINST DEFENSE: THEY ARE WEAK AGAINST BUNTS.
WHEN THE OTHER PITCHER BENDS HIS ELBOWS, HE WILL THROW A CURVE BALL.
7 B 4 2

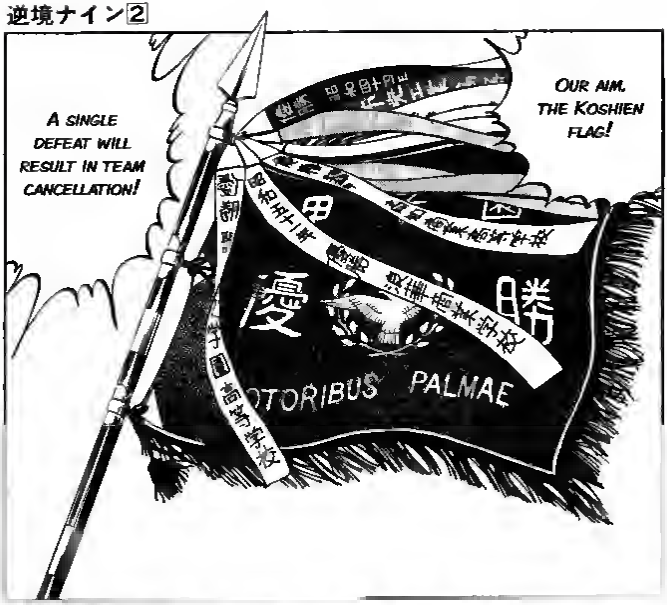

SINK THESE IDEAS INTO YOUR MIND.

THE FIRST ROUND REGIONAL MATCHES FOR THE SUMMER TOURNAMENT IS TOMORROW! THEIR OPPONENT IS DAMASHITA SYOGYO!
WHATEVER THE PITCHER THROWS, JUST BUNT IT!
ALRIGHT, NEXT!
THE OPPONENT'S DEFENSE IS WEAK AGAINST BUNTS!
HOWEVER, OUR ZENRYOKU NINE HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR!
SINCE THEY ALREADY KNOW ALL THE WEAKNESSES OF THE OPPOSING TEAM, THANKS TO MANAGER TSUKITA AKIKO!!

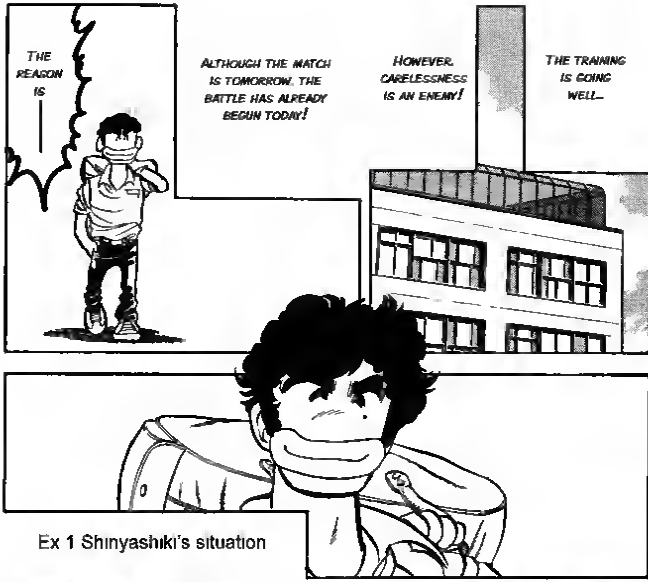

ONE HELL OF A MANAGER!
I'VE NOTED DOWN THE WEAKNESSES OF EACH OF THEIR BATTERS!

LET'S GO, EVERYONE!
OOOH!!

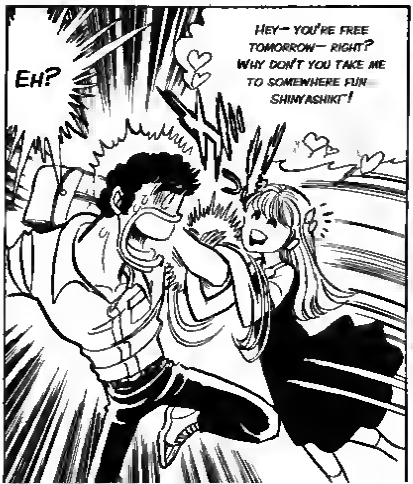
I'VE ASKED EVERY ONE OF THEM PERSONALLY, SO THIS CAN'T BE WRONG!!
GOOD. THEN WE CAN BE SURE OF IT!

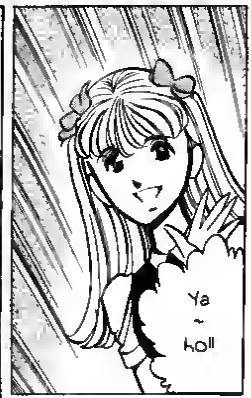

A SINGLE DEFEAT WILL RESULT IN TEAM CANCELLATION!
OUR AIM, THE KOSHIEN FLAG!
優勝
OTORIBUS PALMAE

YEAH!
ARE YOU GUYS DETERMINED?


THE REASON IS
ALTHOUGH THE MATCH IS TOMORROW, THE BATTLE HAS ALREADY BEGUN TODAY!
HOWEVER, CARELESSNESS IS AN ENEMY!
THE TRAINING IS GOING WELL...

Ex 1 Shinyashiki's situation





WHY!?
WHY DOES SHE SHOW UP NOW!?
USUALLY —
SHE WOULD GO OUT WITH IWASA INSTEAD...
NEH!
NEH!
NEH!
S... SORRY!

CAPTAIN!
SORRY!
THIS...
KYA~! THEN LET'S GO TO THE AQUARIUM! THE AQUARIUM!
SURE, LET'S GO! I'LL TAKE YOU ANYWHERE YOU WANT
...KIND OF BETRAYAL DUE TO FALLING TO SEDUCTION, HAPPENS A LOT AT TIMES LIKE THESE.
AH!

WHAT ...
IS THAT GIRL DOING?
FUKUTSU!
WHAT WAS IT ABOUT THE AQUARIUM?
HITOMI HASN'T DONE ANYTHING WRONG!
CAPTAIN, PLEASE STOP!
NO... JUST THAT THE SUNFISH...
WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT THE SUNFISH'S HOLLOW EYES!?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN NOTHING!?
N... NOTHING!

AAH!
SORRY, SHINYASHIKI... I FORGOT THAT I ALREADY ASKED HASEGAWA. SO SEE YA!
SHINYASHIKI ...
ズルズル
<GULP>
I'LL BEAT HIM...
TOMORROW'S MATCH...

I WILL COMPLETELY THRASH DAMASHITA SYOGYO!
THEY BETTER BE PREPARED!!
OOH!!

EVEN THOUGH HE LOST SOMETHING, HE IS STILL FIRED UP
THAT'S GOOD!
YEAH!
I'LL SCORE FOUR RUNS ON THEM!

BUT...
I'VE SAFELY SAVED SHINYASHIKI FROM HARM'S WAY!
I'M STILL WORRIED ABOUT THE OTHER GUYS...

PLEASE BE ALRIGHT!

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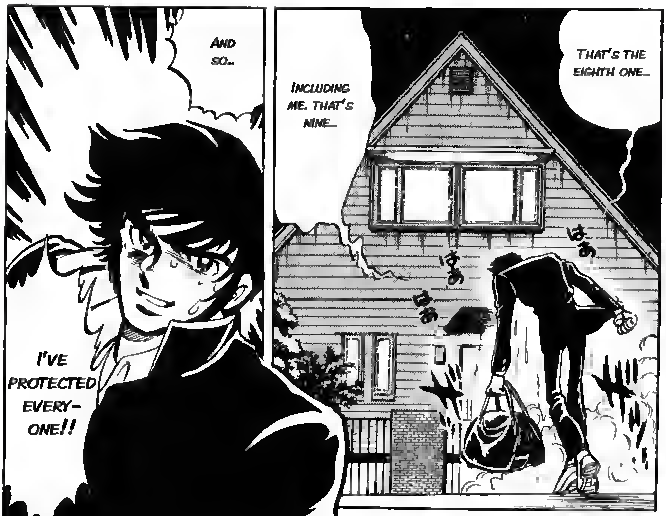

AND SO...
I'VE PROTECTED EVERY-ONE!!
INCLUDING ME. THAT'S NINE...
THAT'S THE EIGHTH ONE...
はあ
はあ
はあ

TOMORRON -
AND EVERYONE WILL SHOW UP..
甲子園
あぁ

スナック
伊久
味
ゲーム
センター
2F
TEL. 310
TODAY'S WILL BE THE LAST ONE FOR A WHILE...
ARE YOU FEELING ALRIGHT?
NO...
THE KIDS AT MY SCHOOL...
ARE AIMING FOR KOSHIEN.

FOR SOME REASON, WHEN I DRINK, I WOULD GET OUT OF CONTROL.
NO...
IS IT FOR TEMPERANCE?
EVERY TIME THERE WOULD BE SOMEONE SENT TO THE HOSPITAL...
THAT'S RIGHT!
OH!
TOMOR-ROW!
SO WHEN'S THE MATCH?
SO THIS WILL BE IT...
WE CAN'T HAVE ANY VIOLENT INCIDENTS INVOLVING THE SCHOOL...

NOTE: KOSHIEN IS SERIOUS BUSINESS. TO PLAY AT KOSHIEN IS A PRESTIGIOUS HONOR AND ANY SCANDALOUS INCIDENTS INVOLVING THE SCHOOL, EVEN IF THE BASEBALL TEAM ISN'T, CAN LEAD TO DISQUALIFICATION FROM THE TOURNAMENT. THANKS FOR THE TIP, WIKIPEDIA! HTTP://EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/HIGH_SCHOOL_BASEBALL_IN_JAPAN

IT'S ALRIGHT!
IS IT ALRIGHT TO DRINK TODAY THEN? IF YOU GO OUT OF CONTROL, THAT'S IT FOR THE TEAM.

GARAXY WARS

I'M NOT MY OLD SELF ANYMORE.
...IS THAT SO...

I KNOW MY LIMIT...

OH?
YOU AREN'T HAVING YOUR USUAL...

As a memento, I bought this "Galaxy Wars" that I always wanted to try.
!!
I thought I'd go to the edge for a bit.
Since it's the last one...
Yes...
Galaxy Wars!!
One cup of this is equal to ten cups of your usual!
Hmm -
Hey!
This is a destructive wine!
You...
Galaxy Wars

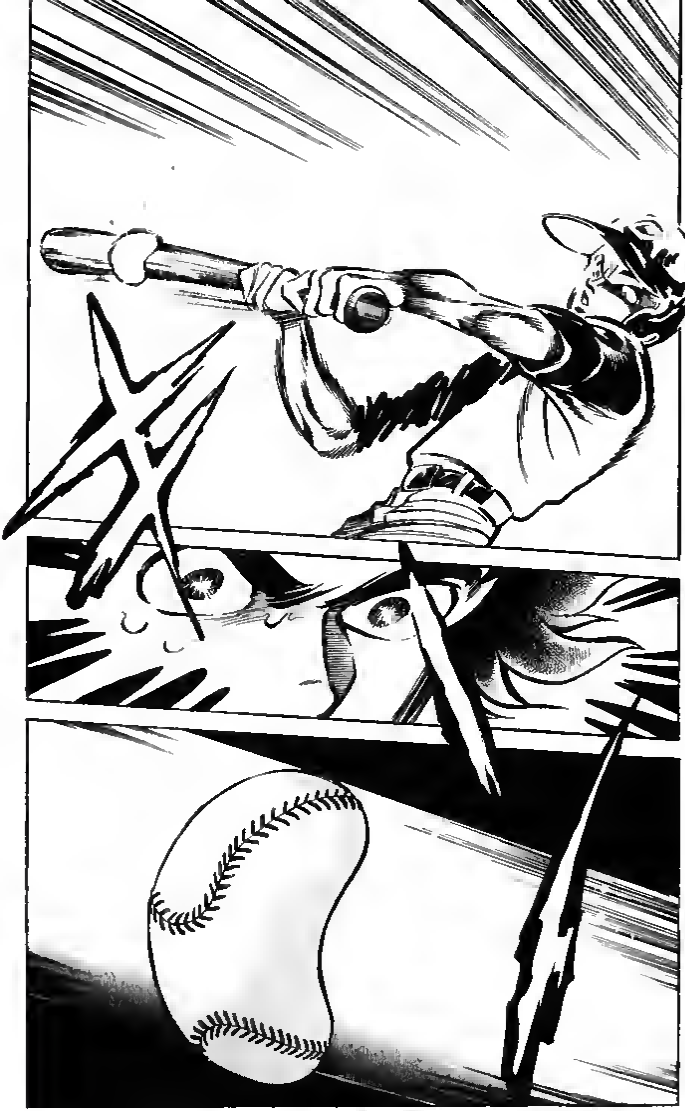
WHAT ABOUT ONE CUP?
TRY SAYING THAT AGAIN!
I'M SORRY!
WAAAH!
WHAT ABOUT IT?
WAH!

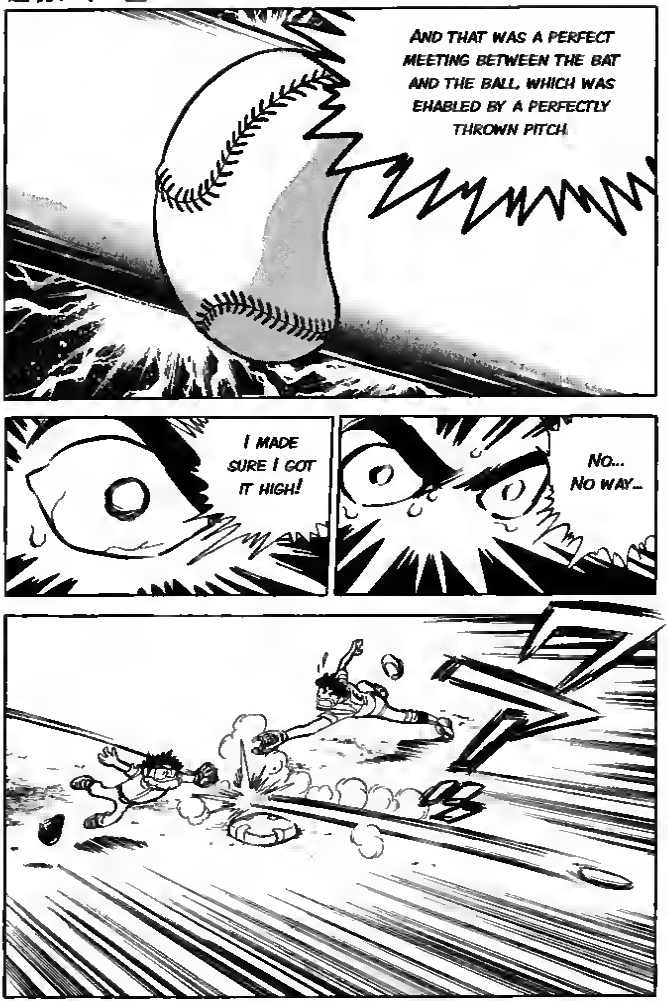
EVEN IF WE HAVE TO BEAT HIM UP!
HOLD HIM DOWN!!

SAKAKI-BARA Go!
HEY, WAKE UP!
GALAXY WARS
YOU HAVE A MATCH,
DAY-BREAK
ZZZ
ZZZ

スズメ
スズメ
よろ…
ガキン
あぁぁぁ

I HAVE A HANG-OVER...!
OH NO!!
I GOT IT HIGH OVER THE PLATE!
GOOD...
THE MATCH STARTED WITHOUT SAKAKIBARA
AT THAT TIME, THE MATCH HAD ALREADY STARTED...




AND THAT WAS A PERFECT MEETING BETWEEN THE BAT AND THE BALL, WHICH WAS ENABLED BY A PERFECTLY THROWN PITCH.
I MADE SURE I GOT IT HIGH!
NO... NO WAY...

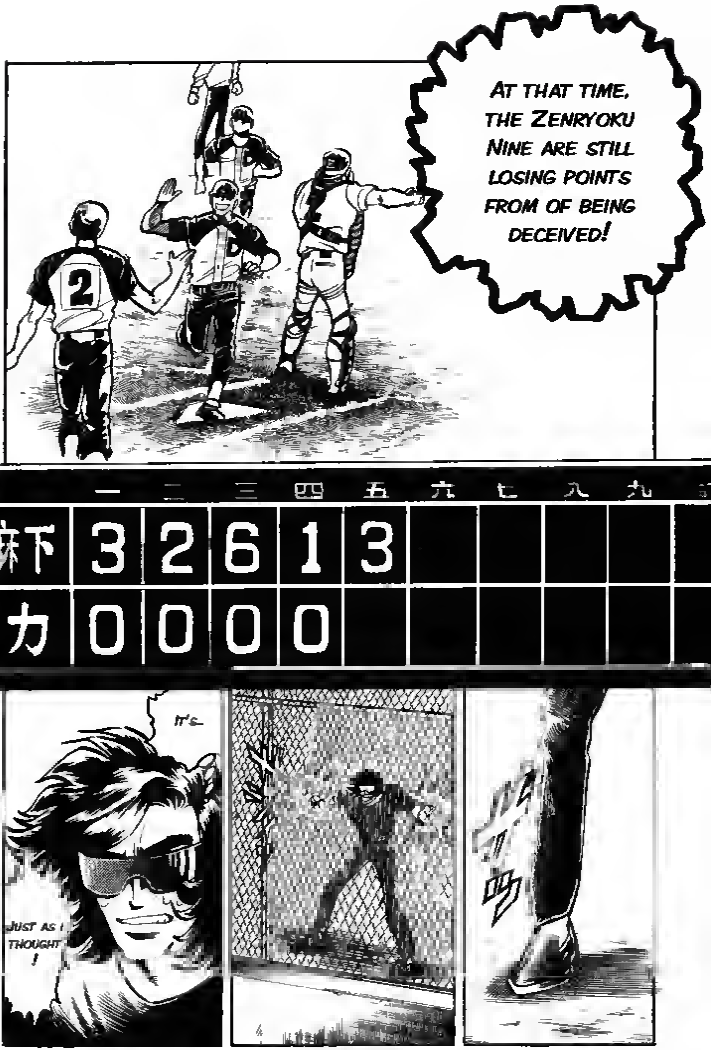
ANOTHER RUN SCORED!
IT WENT THROUGH! IT WENT THROUGH!
.....
W...
WHY !?

EVEN THOUGH IT WAS THEIR WEAKNESS!?
HOW DID THE BALL GO THROUGH EVEN THOUGH...
FUFUFU...
THEY ACTUALLY BELIEVED THE FAKE WEAKNESSES WE TOLD THAT GIRL SPY...
I DIDN'T THINK THEY'D BE THIS STUPID...
THANKS TO THAT... THIS MATCH WILL BE OVER IN NO TIME!

I GUESS THIS IS ONE OF THOSE THINGS YOU SHOULD UNDERSTAND FROM THE NAME..
GALAXY WARS.. EH?
A GREAT WINE JUST AS THE NAME SUGGESTS!
UNDERSTAND THE CONTENTS FROM ITS NAME!?
IT FEELS LIKE A WAR ZONE INSIDE MY HEAD RIGHT NOW..
COME TO THINK OF IT. TODAY'S MATCH IS AGAINST DAMASHITA SYOGYO...
DAMASHITA.. DAMASHITA.. DAMASHITA..
AHH!
DAMA-SHITA SYO...

FUN WITH JAPANESE HOMONYMS:
DAMASHITA = DECEIVED/CHEATED ON

I'VE GOT TO HURRY!
NOW I'M WORRIED!
THREE BUNTS FAILED! CHANGE SIDES!
IT'S COMPLETELY DIFFERENT...!!
THIS IS DIFFERENT FROM THE TIME THE VIDEO WAS TAKEN!
COMPLETELY DIFFERENT!
THIS IS WEIRD!
W.. WHAT'S GOING ON!?


AT THAT TIME, THE ZENRYOKU NINE ARE STILL LOSING POINTS FROM OF BEING DECEIVED!
一 二 三 四 五 六 七 八 九
麻下 3 2 6 1 3
全力 0 0 0 0
IT'S
JUST AS I THOUGHT!

It's my fault!
It's my fault that everyone believed in that fake info!
Teacher, help!
Teach--er!?
Ugh...
Teacher!
Yes! And everyone has forgotten how to fight!
It's because the info has already been embedded in their bodies!
Damashita has deceived you all...
Just as I thought...

And they know that they can't bunt...
Look, even if they take a batting stance...
That's all they've practiced for!
They would try bunting anyway!
.....
They have been completely taken in by the enemy!
This is not good!
Gather everyone up!
They're losing badly!

IT'S THE FIFTH INNING, AND WE'RE DOWN BY 15 RUNS!
RIGHT NOW WE'RE IN A TOUGH SPOT...

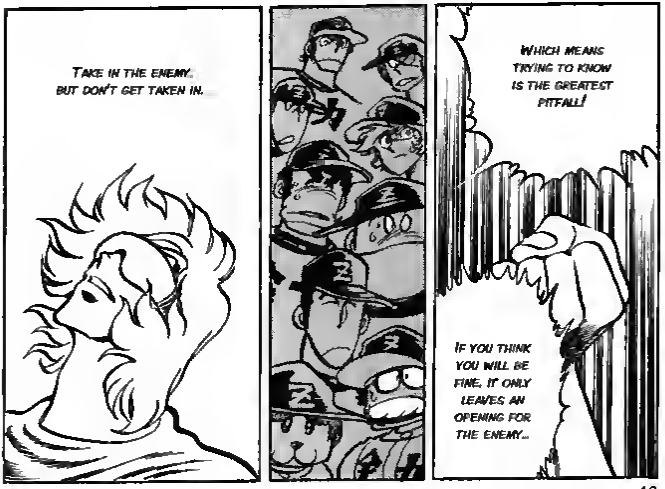
I ALREADY HAVE A GRASP ON THE SITUATION...
SORRY FOR BEING LATE!

AT THIS RATE, WE WILL LOSE!!

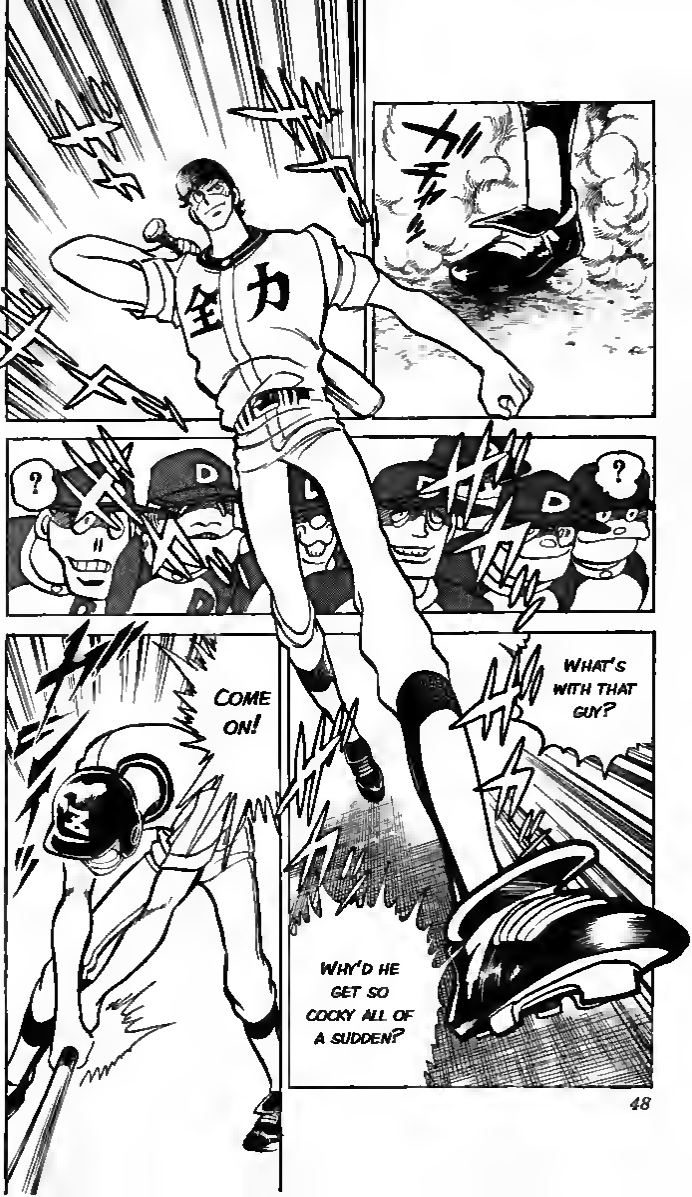
TEACH-ER!
WHAT SHOULD WE DO!?

TEACH-ER!

That knowing your enemy and yourself is the key to victory...
Yesterday I taught you an important lesson...
But when you think you know your enemy...
You fall into a false sense of confidence and end up underestimating them.


Take in the enemy, but don't get taken in.
Which means trying to know is the greatest pitfall!
If you think you will be fine, it only leaves an opening for the enemy...

BUT DON'T BE TAKEN IN!
TAKE IN THE ENEMY...
ヤメ


全力
?
?
COME ON!
WHAT'S WITH THAT GUY?
WHY'D HE GET SO COCKY ALL OF A SUDDEN?

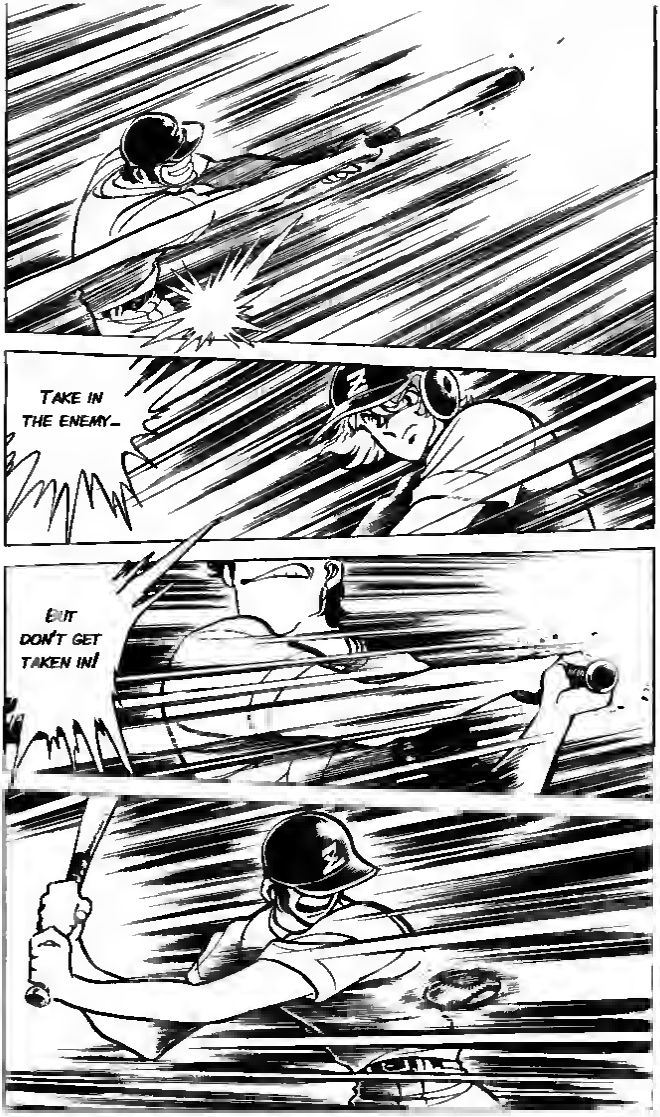
WHERE DID HE GET THAT CONFIDENCE FROM!?
PROBABLY JUST MY IMAGINATION...

STRI
KE!
FU-
NOW HURRY UP AND GIVE ME ANOTHER ONE!
!!
THAT WAS A NICE PITCH!
THAT'S SHOWING HOW IT'S DONE!
はぁはぁ

!!
I'VE GOTCHA NOW!
BELOW UWA-HAHAHAH
KUU_

HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
!!

WHEN YOU THINK IT'S A CURVEBALL...
OH HE'S BENDING!
KU...
ﾌﾞﾝﾌﾞﾝ
IT'S REALLY A FASTBALL!


TAKE IN THE ENEMY...
BUT DON'T GET TAKEN IN!

TAKE IN THE ENEMY....
BUT DON'T GET TAKEN IN!

FIRST MATCH, BREAK-THROUGH!

Translation Notes

This chapter contains an elaborate theme involving a pun on the Japanese words for "drink" and "underestimate." Essentially it means that it's ok to have a drink, but don't get drunken in/underestimate. In the translation, we went with a "take in" as something with a similar double meaning, but without the specific connotations to drinking.

– Crinale

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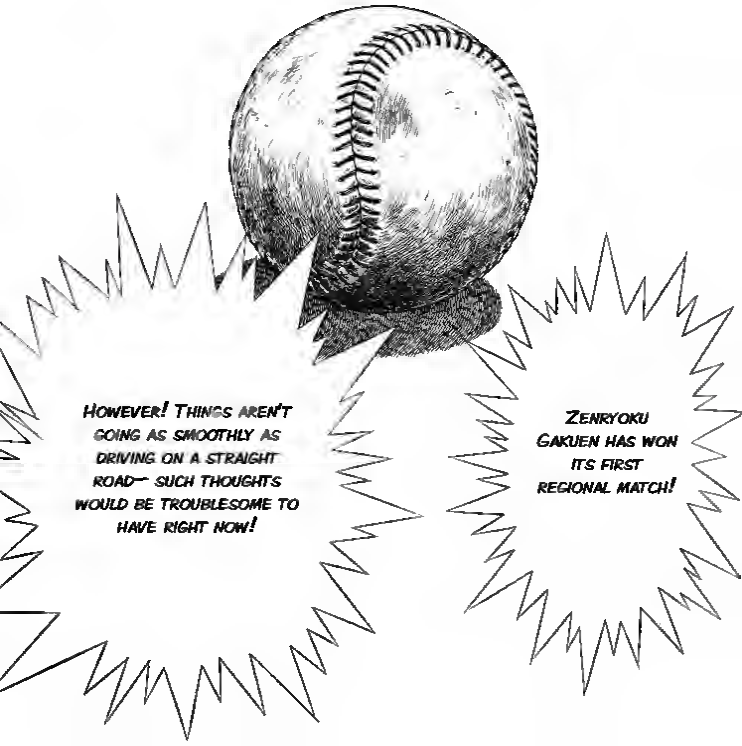
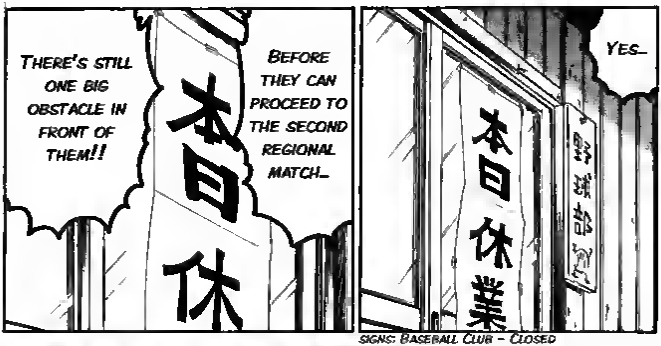
Chapter 6

The day is short, and the work is long

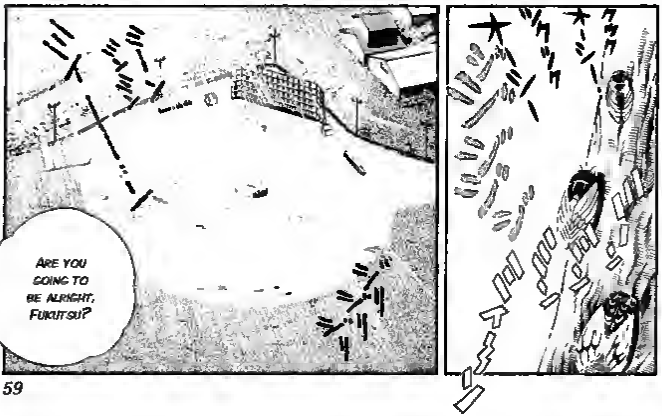

However! Things aren't going as smoothly as driving on a straight road— such thoughts would be troublesome to have right now!
Zenryoku Gakuen has won its first regional match!

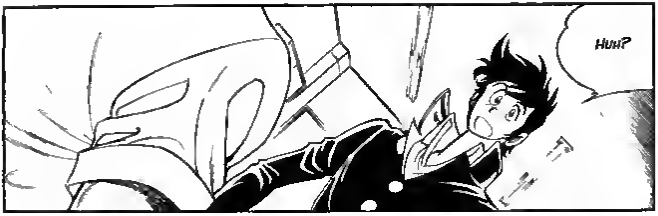
JULY!
ZENRYOKU GAKUEN, RIGHT BEFORE SUMMER VACATION—
THERE IS JUST ONE THING LEFT THAT MAKES EVERYONE NERVOUS...

MIDTERM EXAMS



SIGNS: BASEBALL CLUB - CLOSED


ARE YOU GOING TO BE ALRIGHT, FUKUTSU?
ゴーン
ゴーン
ゴーン


Huh?

Don't "Huh?" me! I'm asking about your teammates.
Your team only has ten players in it!!
And all you guys did was practice with hopes for Koshien.
It seems like you still don't get it, Fukutsu!!
If any one of you fails one midterm, you'll be forced to take tutorial classes.

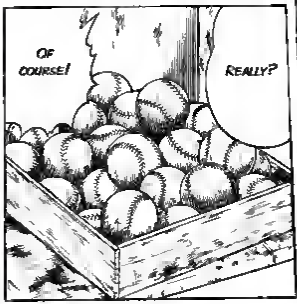
And won't be able to play in the regional matches!!

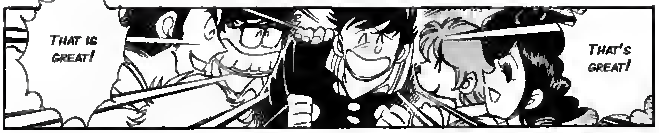
!!

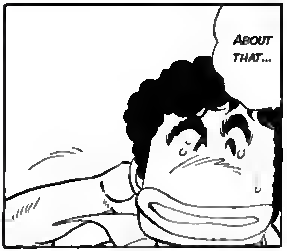
JUST AS I THOUGHT ...

WHAT'S GOING ON, CAPTAIN?
WHY ARE WE GATHERING EVERYONE IN THE CLUBROOM ALL OF A SUDDEN?
IS EVERYONE HERE!!
YES.
GOOD.
THE BOTTOM LINE IS...!!
EVERYONE, EVEN IF IT COSTS YOU YOUR LIVES
DO NOT FAIL ANY MIDTERMS!!
EH?
EH?
I...
I BEG YOU!

SIGNS 1: HARD WORK. 2: ABSOLUTE POWER.

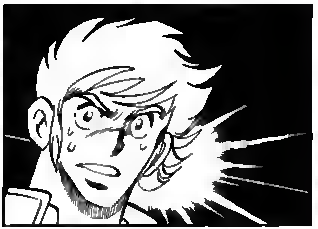


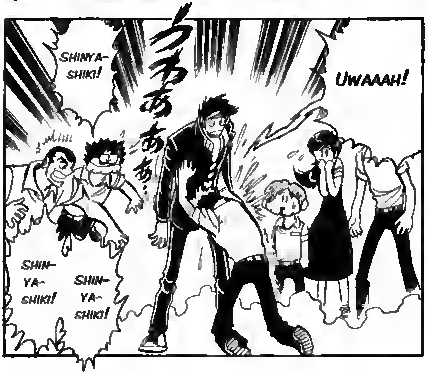

THAT IS GREAT!
THAT'S GREAT!

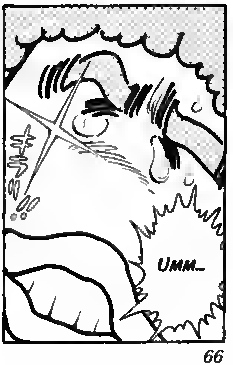

ABOUT THAT...

OH SHINYASHIKI! ARE YOU READY TOO?
CAPTAIN!

ABOUT THAT...




SHINYA-SHIKI!
UWAAAH!
SHIN-YA-SHIKI!
SHIN-YA-SHIKI!


UMM...

WE CAN STILL BARELY MAKE IT!
WELL... EVEN IF SHINYASHIKI FAILS, WE STILL HAVE NINE PLAYERS REMAINING...
GOTOH!
U.....N
WHAT'S WRONG, FUKUTSU?
YOU AND THAT WIMPY FACE OF YOURS...
.....
YOU TOO?
YOU...
DON'T TELL ME
.....
YOU TOO!?
.....

SORRY, EVERYONE...
SORRY...
DIDN'T STUDY!
I ALSO...
ALSO DIDN'T STUDY AT ALL!!
ALSO...

Ah
STAND UP FUKUTSU!
STAND!
EVERYONE HERE WILL QUIT THE TEAM RIGHT AWAY!
AND THE TEAM WILL BE DISBANDED!!
IF YOU HAPPEN TO FAIL ANYTHING...
WHAT CAN YOU DO BY KNEELING DOWN?
LISTEN... THIS TEAM IS YOUR TEAM!

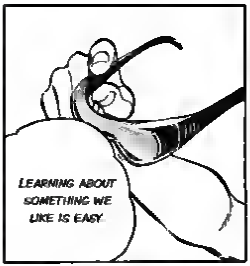
GOTCH...
THAT'S RIGHT!
YEAH!
YES!
努力!!
YEAH!!
I'M RIGHT AREN'T I?
(MORE GENERIC YEAH/ YES)
CAPTAIN!
SHE'S A GRADE LOWER THOUGH...
.....
PLEASE USE THEM!! I THINK THEY'LL BE USEFUL FOR THE EXAM!!
CAPTAIN, I WILL LEND YOU MY NOTES!!

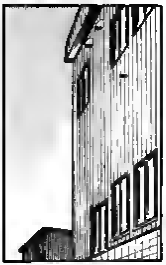
WHY WON'T YOU TAKE THEM!?
WH-
WHY!?
THANKS, TSUKITA-
BUT YOUR CONCERN IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME-
THAT'S BECAUSE
YOU'RE IN 2ND YEAR, AND I'M A 3RD YEAR STUDENT..
SEE? THAT-
NO... I MUST DO IT!!
I'LL MANAGE SOMEHOW
B- BUT-!!

THERE ARE STILL 6 MORE DAYS UNTIL THE EXAMS!
EVEN GOD WORKED 6 DAYS BEFORE TAKING A BREAK ON THE 7TH!
I CAN DO IT TOO!
SHIN
SHINYA-SHIKI...
LET'S DO IT, SHINYA-SHIKI!

SO YOU WANT ME TO TEACH YOU HOW TO LEARN!!
OH...

CAN YOU GUYS BE READY IN TIME FOR THE MIDTERM EXAMS. ?
職員室
.....


LEARNING ABOUT SOMETHING WE LIKE IS EASY



LET'S START WITH SHIN-YASHIKI FOLLOW ME!!
OH WELL...

NOW IS NOT THE TIME FOR THAT ..!
SO WE FIRST HAVE TO LIKE THEM

IF A GIRL YOU LIKE IS A FAN OF KOME KOME CLUB...
FOR EXAMPLE...
LISTEN —
NO NEED TO BE SO HASTY...
I WOULD GATHER ALL THE KOME KOME CLUB CDS AND MEMORIZE THEM!!
WHAT WOULD YOU DO?
LOOK AT THIS GIRL...
SHE'S 3RD YEAR. CLASS 1'S YOKOYAMA.
SO...
GOOD.
IS IT THAT SIMPLE?
I CAN PERFECTLY MEMORIZE THEM IF I HAVE 2-3 DAYS!

THAT GIRL LIKES ENGLISH...
ESPECIALLY TALKING ABOUT ENGLISH GRAMMAR USAGE.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
VERY NICE...! I LIKE HER!!
!!
SHE IS HIRAJIMA FROM CLASS 2... HER FAVORITE IS TRIGONOMETRY
SHE'S ALSO GOOD!
NEXT!
NEXT IS THIS GIRL.
EH?

SHE LIKES MEMORIZING CHEMICAL SYMBOLS. MITSUE FROM CLASS 4!
A BIG FAN OF THE TOKUGAWA FAMILY TREE, NORIKO!!
MISATO, WHO LOVES SPEAKING IN TRADITIONAL JAPANESE!

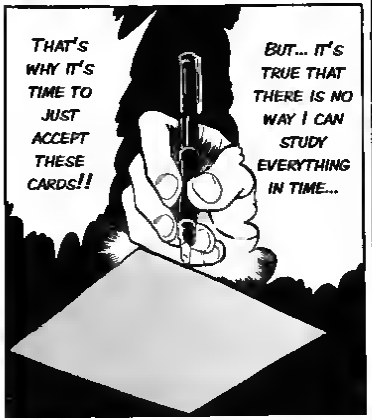
化学1

He'll be alright.
Shin'ashiki is fired up now...
Teach-er!!
Next is your turn.
Good.
Can you memorize this card's worth on a single subject?
What should I do...
Then memorize all of these subjects in four days.
Easy job!
Teach-er!!

NO... NO WAY!
!!
MEMORIZE EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THEM!
THEN WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE TO LEARN EVERYTHING COVERED IN THE TESTS IN TIME?
IT WILL BE PRETTY EASY TO JUST FOCUS ON THESE CARDS!
INSTEAD OF BEING HALF ASSED AT EVERYTHING, IT'S BETTER TO JUST FOCUS ON CERTAIN TOPICS!
NOW IS THE TIME FOR THESE CARDS!
IS NOT POSSIBLE!
THAT...!

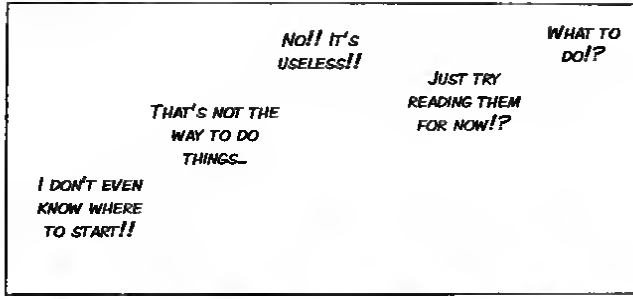
I CAN'T ACCEPT THIS. !!
IMPOSSIBLE!
FUKUTSU IS STRESSED OUT BY THE CARDS.

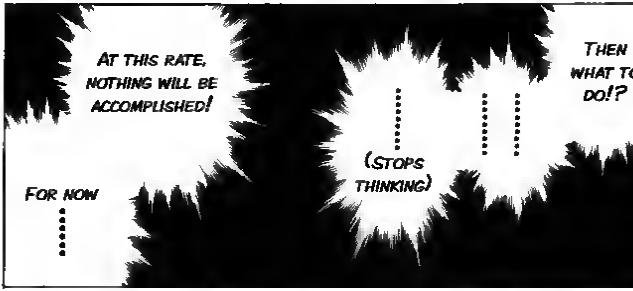
IMPOSSIBLE!!

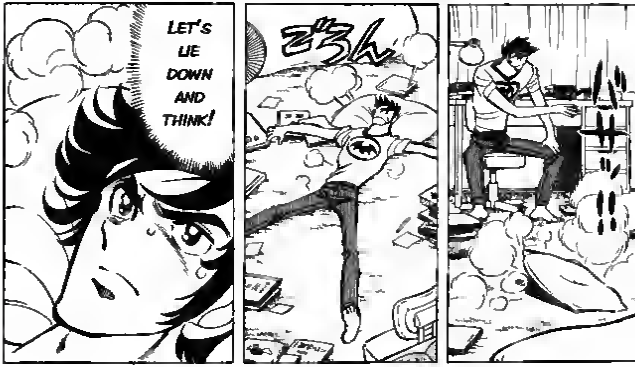

THAT'S WHY IT'S TIME TO JUST ACCEPT THESE CARDS!!
BUT... IT'S TRUE THAT THERE IS NO WAY I CAN STUDY EVERYTHING IN TIME...

NO! I STILL CAN'T ACCEPT IT!

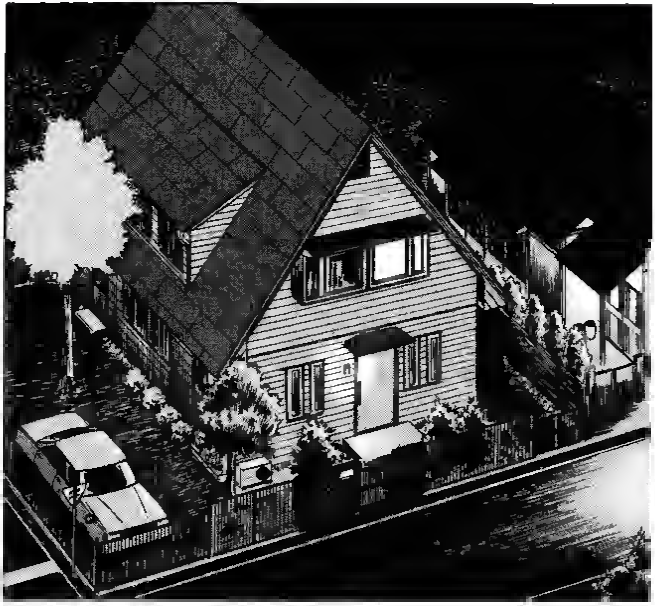
I CAN'T DO THIS!!

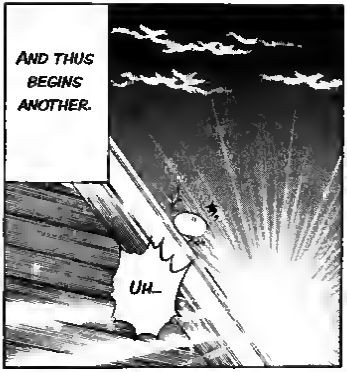

WHAT TO DO!?
NO!! IT'S USELESS!!
JUST TRY READING THEM FOR NOW!?
THAT'S NOT THE WAY TO DO THINGS...
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE TO START!!


AT THIS RATE, NOTHING WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED!
THEN WHAT TO DO!?
(STOPS THINKING)
FOR NOW


LET'S LIE DOWN AND THINK!
ごろん

……
FU-
KUTSU
TOSHI
…
GOOD
BYE
…



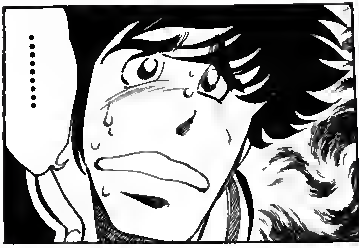

AND THUS BEGINS ANOTHER.
UH…

AND SO ONE DAY HAS GONE BY…

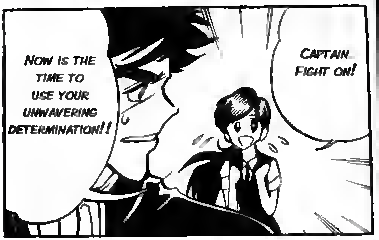
わわわわ
わわわわ
ONAAAAHHHHH

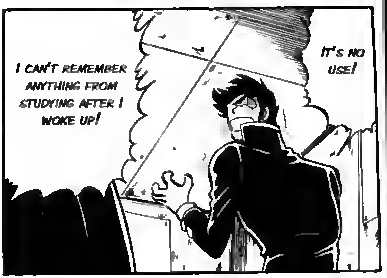
YOU JUST SLEPT!?
WHAT DID YOU SAY—
HE'S CURRENTLY TALKING TO CLASS 1'S YOKOYAMA ABOUT THE TEST!
AND YOU CALL YOURSELF THE CAPTAIN!?
SHINYASHIKI HAS ALREADY MASTERED ENGLISH!
S-SORRY—
I DON'T BELIEVE THIS!
SO THIS IS THE KIND OF PERSON CAPTAIN IS!

DON'T "BUT" ME!
BUT...
YOU WOULD SLEEP AT SUCH A CRITICAL TIME!?
GREAT USE OF YOUR TIME!
RIGHT NOW YOU'RE RUNNING OUT OF TIME! IT'S OBVIOUS HOW CRITICAL THIS TIME IS FOR YOU!
HOW-EVER
NO...!
THERE'S NO POINT FOLLOWING A CAPTAIN LIKE HIM TO KOSHIEN!
LET'S GO, EVERY-ONE!
NO WAY!


……

CAPTAIN!


NOW IS THE TIME TO USE YOUR UNWAVERING DETERMINATION!!
CAPTAIN FIGHT ON!


I CAN'T REMEMBER ANYTHING FROM STUDYING AFTER I WOKE UP!
IT'S NO USE!

I CAN ALREADY SEE IT!
THE RESULT WILL STILL BE THE SAME.
NO!
凶!
BUT IT'S ALRIGHT TO JUST DO EVERYTHING THAT YOU CAN.
FAIL!
FIVE DAYS...
THERE IS STILL FIVE DAYS UNTIL THE EXAM!
THIS IS THE REAL ME!
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU TO SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
ONLY FIVE DAYS LEFT!!
FIVE DAYS...

YOU HAVE TO STOP BURDENING YOURSELF WITH EVERYTHING...
YOU...
CAPTAIN!
I WON'T HATE YOU EVEN IF YOU FAIL THE TEST!
NO ONE IS IN A POSITION TO BLAME YOU!!
SLEEPING INSTEAD OF STUDYING... WELL... THAT!!
NO.. INSTEAD OF THAT .. FOR ALL THE THINGS YOU'VE DONE FOR THE TEAM UP TO THIS POINT ..!!
JUST WORRY ABOUT YOUR HEALTH AND TAKE IT EASY AT THE EXAM...
SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE TEAM SO MUCH...
I THINK I SHOULD BE THE ONE APOLOGIZING.

!!
THAT WON'T DO, TSUKITA!!
THAT...
NO... FOR A MAN...
FOR A CAPTAIN...
I AM THE CAPTAIN..!!
AND BEING A COWARD IS NOT SOMETHING I WOULD DO!!
RUNNING AWAY IN THE FACE OF THE ENEMY...

I DON'T NEED TO SLEEP ANYMORE!!
I WILL DO IT FOR SURE!!
I WILL DO IT!
BUT...
UOOOHHH!!
ウおおっ!!
THERE'S NO WAY I WOULD WHINE!!
ビカ
ビカ
ビカ
NO, NO. GOOD JOB!
THAT'S NOT IT!
JUST AS EXPECTED FROM OUR MANAGER!
GOOD JOB, TSUKITA! YOU SURE KNOW HOW TO HANDLE THE CAPTAIN.

2 AM
THAT NIGHT...
WILL HE BE ALRIGHT?
ME TOO...
I WAS KINDA WORRIED.
OH!
OH! YOU GUYS TOO?
YEAH.
OH!

THE LIGHT IS STILL ON!!
THE LIGHT...
...IS STILL STUDYING!!
THE CAPTAIN...

It's okay cutting these off is okay...
I have to cut all these to follow the card!
U M M M M M M !!
U M M M
Sorry!! This lingering feeling in my heart!
But to study everything on the card. All this stuff has to be cut!
It's pretty dangerous but it has to be done.
He does not think twice about cutting.
Fukutsu is studying without any hesitation
Have to cut this too.
And this...

ONE CAN'T HELP BUT TO FEEL SORRY FOR THE THINGS BEING CUT.. BUT IT HAS TO BE DONE!
IT'S AS IF HE'S PICKING THE REGULAR PLAYERS FOR HIS TEAM!
AND WITHOUT REALIZING, HE HAS STUDIED EVERYTHING COVERED IN THE TEST!
AND SO FUKUTSU IS NO LONGER AFFECTED BY THE THINGS HE CUT...

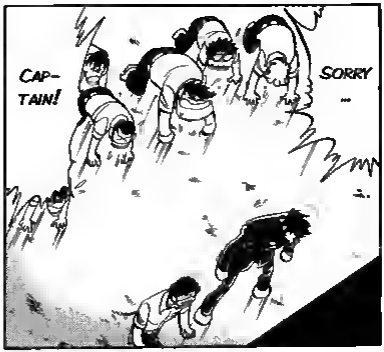
RESULTS
MIDTERM EXAMINATION ENDED
AL-RIGHT !!
W.C
44 不屈闘志
98 新屋敷章
AND WE MADE THE TOP 100!

LET'S SEE HOW MANY PEOPLE FAILED.
HEY..
UWAH— HAHAHAHA
AH — HAHAHA
SIX PEOPLE... THAT WAS DANGEROUS!!
TO THINK WE COULD'VE ENDED UP THERE!

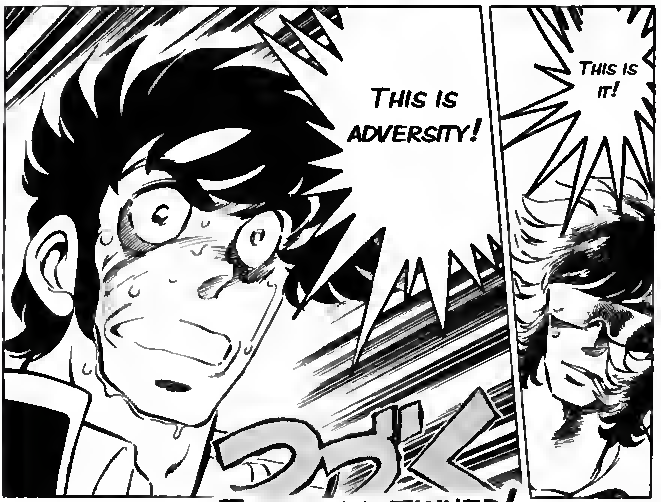
Fail – 6 People

1st year	Furuya Hideaki (Baseball Team)
	Minami Hiroshi (Baseball Team)
	Yokoyama Naoya (Baseball Team)
2nd year	Gotoh Ken (Baseball Team)
3rd year	Ooishi Kurasuke (Baseball Team)
	Kobayashi Takashi (Baseball Team)

The people above must attend the tutorial sessions starting tomorrow, and rewrite the midterm on the last day of the tutorial sessions.



BUT IT SEEMS LIKE SOMETHING HAPPENED!
WE WERE GOING TO STUDY AS USUAL...
WE'RE SORRY!
PLEASE FORGIVE US!
THAT MEANS -
SIX OF THEM FAILED...
"KNOW YOURSELF KNOW YOUR ENEMY"
AS OUR TEACHER HAS SAID BEFORE...
WE ONLY HAVE FOUR PLAYERS REMAINING!
WE'RE ASHAMED!



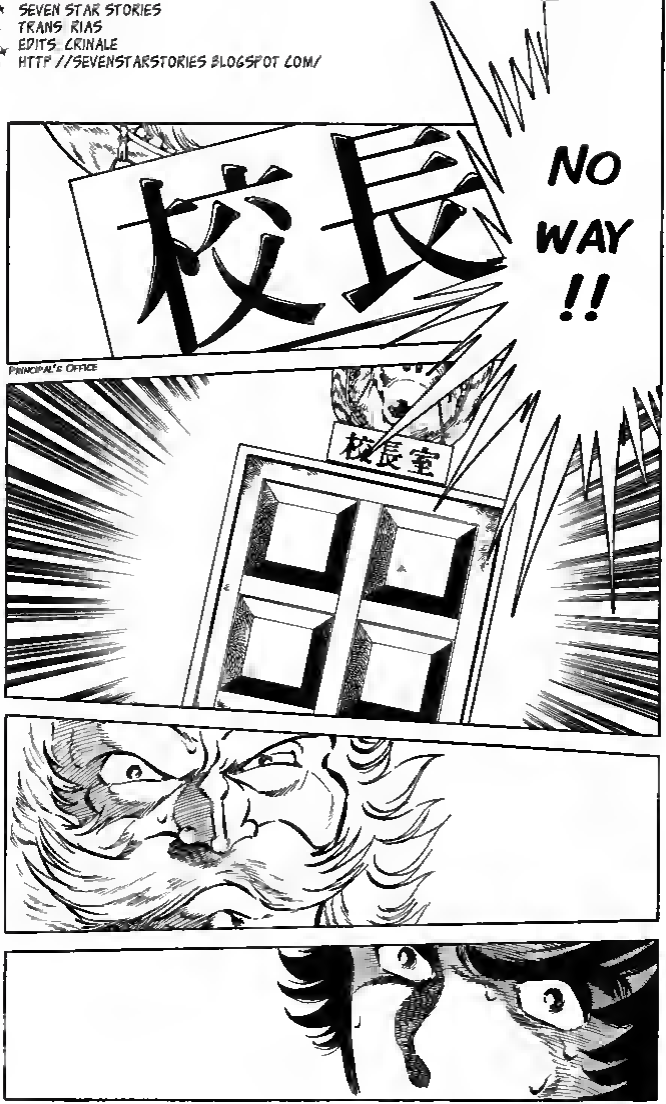
To be continued!

CHAPTER 7

対 FUKUTSU VS. OH!! !!

THE ZENRYOKU GAKUEN PLAYERS HAVE FINALLY BECOME A TEAM THAT IS READY FOR KOSHIEN!!
HOWEVER, ADVERSITY WAS JUST WAITING AROUND THE CORNER!!
PLAYERS WHO ARE BEGGING FOR THEIR CAPTAIN'S FORGIVENESS
SHINYASHIKI - DID IT BECAUSE OF HIS INTERESTS IN GIRLS
FUKUTSU - OVERCAME THE CHALLENGE WITH HIS WILLPOWER
YAMASHITA - STAYED ALIVE BECAUSE HE ACTUALLY STUDIED HARD
HAGIWARA - SUSPECTED OF CHEATING, BUT PASSED ANYWAY
SIX PLAYERS CANNOT ATTEND THE MATCH BECAUSE THEY FAILED THEIR MIDTERM EXAMS!!
WHAT A THING TO HAVE HAPPENED WHEN THE MATCH IS JUST 3 DAYS AWAY!!

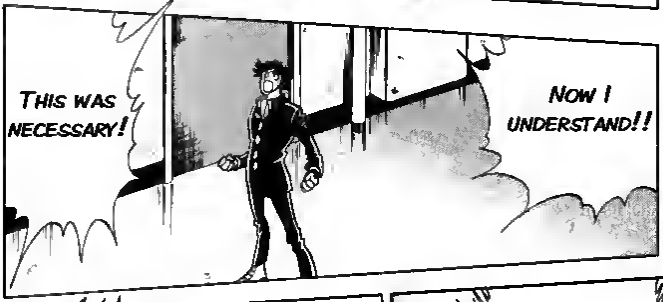
SEVEN STAR STORIES
TRANS RIAS
EDITS CRINALE
HTTP //SEVENSTARSTORIES BLOGSPOT COM/



THEY ARE STUDENTS BEFORE THEY ARE BASEBALL PLAYERS!
NO WAY AM I GOING TO ALLOW FAILED STUDENTS TO CONTINUE WITH THEIR CLUB ACTIVITIES!!
YES...
Y...
バタン
.....
GO HOME ALREADY!

Is it really..
Impossible ...!?
F... Fukutsu..

AHH...
IS IT ONLY A DREAM TO HAVE THE CHAMPIONSHIP FLAG IN MY ROOM!!
IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT, FUKUTSU!!
FOR GIVING ME THIS STUPID DREAM...
THIS VOICE!?
WHY IS HE...
FUKUTSU'S VOICE!?
FUWAHAHAH-
UWAHAHAHAHA


THIS WAS NECESSARY!
NOW I UNDERSTAND!!

THAT'S WHY THEY WERE GIVEN A FAILING GRADE!
THE GREAT WILL OF THE UNIVERSE MADE THAT HAPPEN!

IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO GO TO KOSHIEN WITH THOSE MEMBERS!

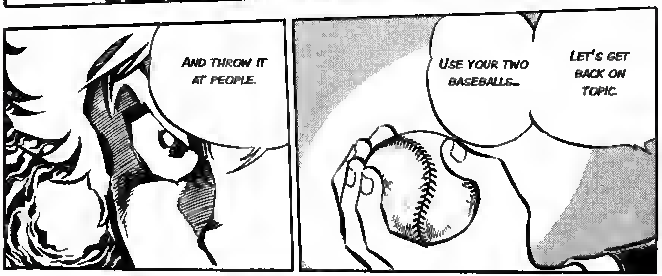
WHICH MEANS!!
WHICH MEANS...
WILL GUARANTEE US KOSHIEN!!
THE MEMBERS I GATHER FROM NOW ON...
FU...
FUHAHA-HAHA!!

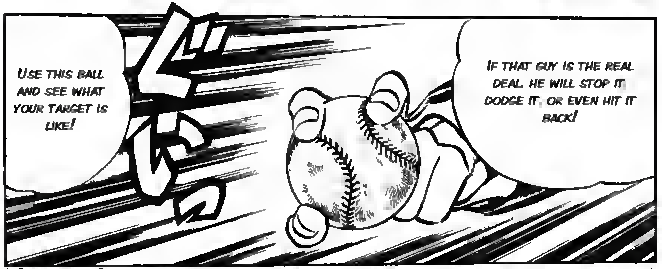
Our... our baseball team...
Has finally been blessed by the gods!!
And me being part of that team means that...
I've been selected by the gods!
Fu — ha ha ha ha !!

HE HAS BECAME A GREAT PERSON AGAIN!
IN THE MIDST OF ADVERSITY!!
HE'S GREAT...
I JUST CAN'T STOP LAUGHING!

LET'S HURRY AND GATHER SOME NEW MEMBERS!
NOW THEN...
EACH OF YOU WILL TAKE TWO.
TAKE THESE BALLS.
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN WE WILL JUST TAKE WHOEVER WE CAN GET!
?

Have you ever seen the movie "Seven Samurai"?
Nope. Never.
What!
That itself is a problem! Why haven't you seen such a great movie!!
S-sorry!
What about "Rocky" then!?
I've watched 3 and 4!
I watched 4 on TV!
Me too!
Ed's note: Hey man, 4 was awesome.
What about "Ben-Hur"!?
Haven't seen it yet—
What?
These guys...!





IN "SEVEN SAMURAI" THE VILLAGERS SURPRISE ATTACK THE PEOPLE THEY SEEK HELP FROM TO TEST THEIR STRENGTH.

ロッテン
パピポ
JUST TRY IT!
NO WAY, CAPTAIN!
I CAN'T DO SUCH A THING!
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
IT'S NO PROBLEM!
YOU CAN DO IT!
3RD YEAR, CLASS 6's FUKUTSU TOSHI. PLEASE GO TO THE PRINCIPLE'S OFFICE.
WHAT'S GOING ON?
EXCUSE ME!
校長室

!?

YO. FUKUTSU
WHAT IS IT, HAGIWARA?
THIS OLD MAN JUST DOESN'T GET IT.
TO GATHER SOME NEW MEMBERS...
I WAS GOING AROUND AND HITTING BALLS AT PEOPLE IN THE HALLWAYS.
.....

EVER WATCHED "SEVEN SAMURAI"?
FUKUTSU, HAVE YOU..
WHY DID YOU DO THAT?
AND I BROKE THREE WINDOWS.
!!

HAGIWARA.
FUKUTSU WAS MOVED THAT HAGIWARA THOUGHT THE SAME WAY.
IT FELT LIKE THE TEAM WAS STARTING TO GET BACK ON THEIR FEET.
FORTUNATELY, NO ONE WAS INJURED.
JUST DON'T TRY ANYTHING LIKE THIS AGAIN!
IF SOMETHING SERIOUS HAPPENED, YOU GUYS WILL BE THE ONE TO SUFFER!
I UNDERSTAND YOUR FEELINGS...
BUT I CANNOT ACCEPT SUCH ACTIONS FOR GATHERING MEMBERS!!
EXCUSE US PLEASE!
YES SIR!
WE'RE SORRY!

BUT FUKUTSU..
ACTUALLY, I'VE ALREADY FOUND SOMEONE WITH THAT METHOD.
.....
I GUESS THAT METHOD IS NO GOOD, HAGIWARA...
TAKE A LOOK AT THIS..
WHAT!?

THAT...
THAT WOUND IS...
I GOT IT...
WHEN... THAT GUY...
RETURNED... MY BALL...
ワッ!!
RYO!

YOU ARE...?
3RD YEAR, CLASS 4, KAMEYA MANNEN.

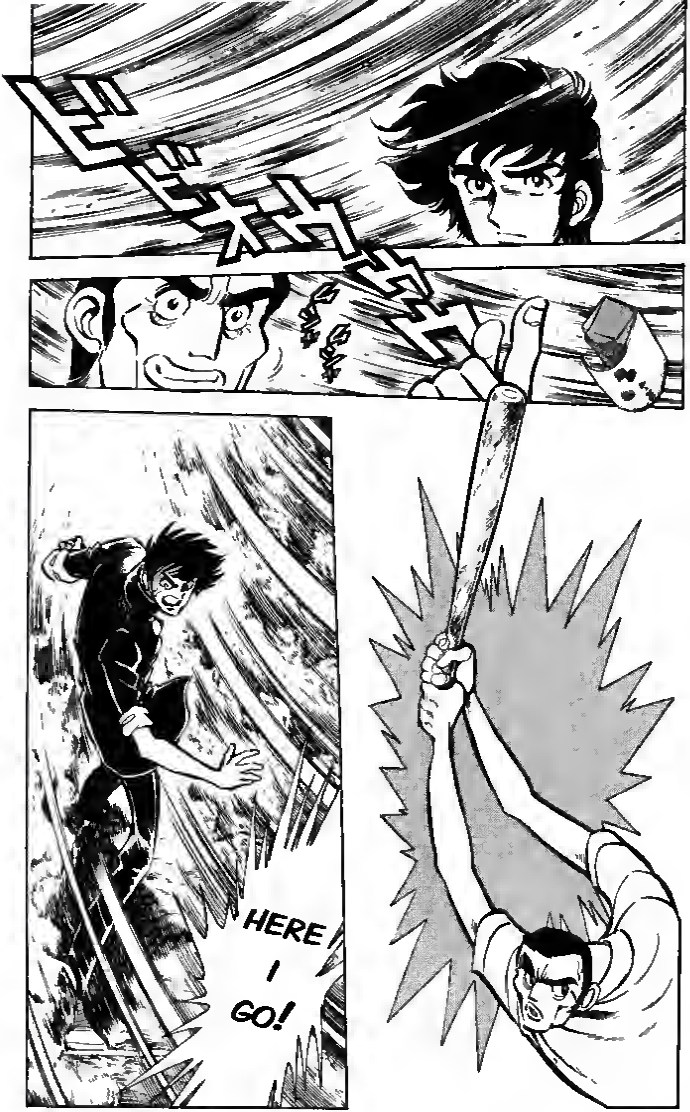
SO THAT WAS TO TEACH HIM A LESSON.
HE DID DO AN OUTRAGEOUS THING...
HE HAS THE ABILITY!
HE'S A GOOD PROS-PECT!
HE'S...
IT'S A SHAME, BUT...
WILL YOU JOIN THE BASEBALL TEAM?
SEE YA!
I LIKE WATCHING BASEBALL MORE THAN PLAYING IT
THEN THAT MEANS I WOULDN'T HAVE THE TIME TO WATCH IT
IF I PLAYED...

HOLD ON, OH!
YOU! YOU CALLED ME OH!
SAY THAT AGAIN!!
YOU ONLY LOOK LIKE HIM!
THE REAL OH SADAHARU ISN'T A COWARD LIKE YOU ARE!!
HEY, SO I AM JUST LIKE HIM RIGHT?
NO!

PLZ SEE HTTP://EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/SADAHARU_OH AND HTTP://WWW.KOKUSAI.CO.JP/JINRU/SPORT/OH.HTML

WHAT !?
IF YOU FEEL VEXED, THEN SHOW ME YOU CAN HIT 756 HOME RUNS!
OH SADAHARU WASN'T A GREAT MAN BECAUSE HE ONLY WATCHED BASEBALL! HE IS GREAT BECAUSE HE ALSO PLAYED!!
YOU'RE WRONG!
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT!
SO YOU THINK I'M JUST SOME OH SADAHARU LOOK-ALIKE WITH NO ABILITY?
GGGGGGG

IF YOU WIN, THEN I'LL JOIN YOUR TEAM.
THEN LET'S PLAY!
THEN YOU WILL HAVE TO CHEER ON THE GIANTS, AND ATTEND ALL THEIR GAMES!
BUT IF I WIN...
WE'LL SING A SONG TO CHEER THEM ON TOGETHER ♡
AH...
ALRIGHT THEN!


ビュオオオオ
HERE I GO!

ハッ…
ギロッ
WHY DO I GET THE FEELING THAT NO MATTER WHAT I THROW..
WHAT AN INTENSE LOOKING BAT...
グッ
THAT IT WILL BE COMING STRAIGHT BACK!?
THIS BAT WAS USED BY OH SADAHARU WHEN HE WAS STILL PLAYING FOR THE GIANTS!!
LET ME TELL YOU ONE THING.. THIS IS NO ORDINARY BAT...

THEN... THAT BAT HAS SCORED AGAINST PEOPLE LIKE KANEDA. ENATSU, HOSHINO AND MURAYAMA...!?

THERE'S NO WAY I CAN WIN!!
AGAINST THAT BAT...
ゴワッ

MY OLD MAN GOT THIS IMPORTANT GIFT WHEN HE WAS WORKING AS A BAT BOY!

This ball that I'm holding right now...
Is just a regular ball!
It doesn't have any famous legacy!
Hold the match!
Teach-er!
What do you think you're doing?

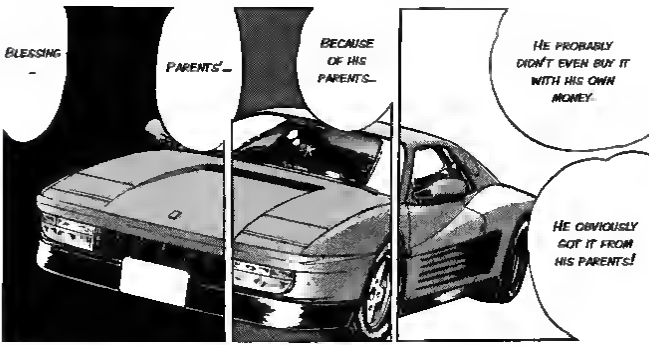
CAN YOU REALLY HAVE A MATCH WITHOUT A CATCHER OR AN UMPIRE?
STOP FOOLING AROUND...
DON'T STOP US, TEACHER!!
PICK ANOTHER DAY FOR THIS! I'LL BE THE WITNESS FOR THAT!
I GUESS IT CAN'T BE HELPED...
HMPH...
WE'LL DO IT TOMORROW AFTER SCHOOL THEN!

I WOULD'VE ENDED UP LOSING...
HAD TEACHER DIDN'T COME TO STOP IT...
ガシッ!
サッ

ギギギギ
グワッシャ
UWAA!!

ゴロゴロ
ゴロゴロ
ドッドッドッ
ヒヒヒ
ポポポ

He shouldn't be allowed to drive a car like that!
Why is he driving so recklessly!!
To have such a nice car...


Blessing -
parents'...
Because of his parents...
He probably didn't even buy it with his own money.
He obviously got it from his parents!

PARENTS'...
PARENTS' ...!!
THAT'S IT!!

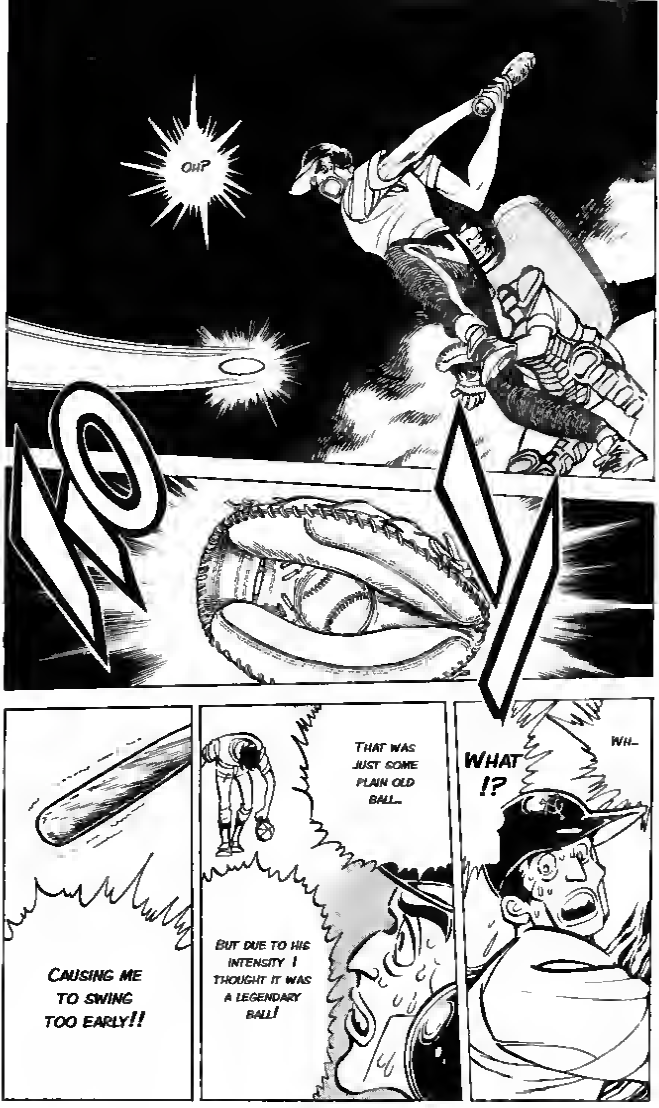
If the ball doesn't have any legacy to it...
Then I'll be the one...
To bless it with a legacy!

IT'S TRUE THAT IT HAS SCORED MANY HITS. BUT IT SHOULD HAVE MISSED MORE THAN IT HAS HIT!!
THAT BAT...
THERE'S NOTHING TO FEAR!
IT HAS NEVER BEEN HIT A SINGLE TIME!
COMPARED TO THIS BALL

BURN,
WHITE BALL!

LIKE THE
SUN!!

ZENRYOKU SPECTRUM!!
UU...
UWAAH...
DEMON BALL!
MAKYUU!
MIZUNO


OH?
10
CAUSING ME TO SWING TOO EARLY!!
BUT DUE TO HIS INTENSITY I THOUGHT IT WAS A LEGENDARY BALL!
THAT WAS JUST SOME PLAIN OLD BALL...
WHAT!?
WH-

BUT...
NOW THAT I'VE GOT IT FIGURED OUT...
I'M NOT GOING TO MISS AGAIN!

ZENRYOKU SPECTRUM!
EVEN THOUGH I KNOW THE TRUTH...
I CAN'T DO IT!
MY BODY DOESN'T RECOGNIZE WHAT I KNOW!
AHH!

I ALREADY HAD IT FIGURED—
BUT I STILL SWUNG TOO EARLY!
MAKYUU!
THAT'S RIGHT. I'VE BLESSED THIS BALL AND CREATED A NEW LEGACY!!

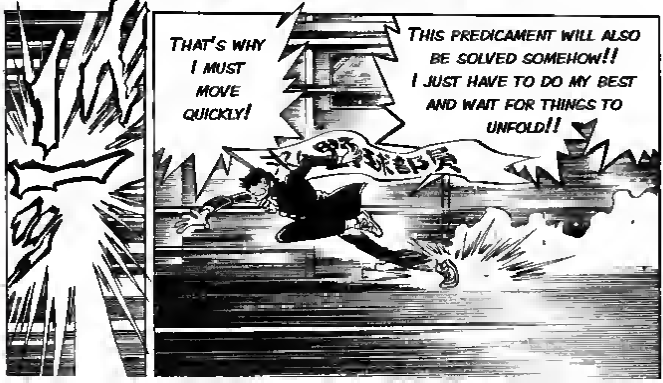
I AM A MAN TOO... I WILL AIM FOR 756 HOME RUNS...
I LOST...
AND I SEE IT!
GOOD JOB...
Uggh...! Nanona is the hamerun kind of sweets
I'VE DECIDED...
THE ZENRYOKU SPECTRUM!
GOOD JOB, FUKUTSU!
OH!

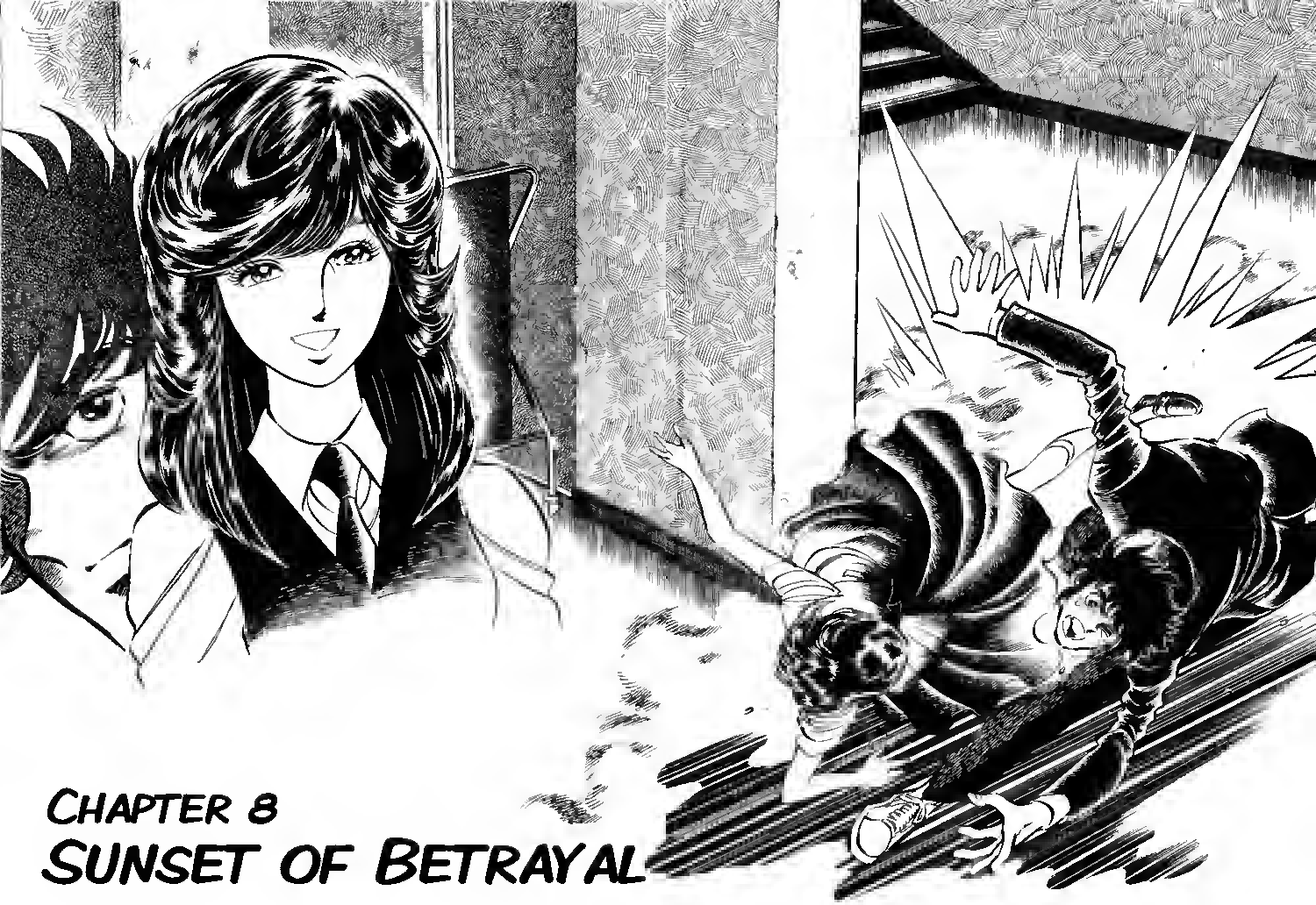
1. NANONA CONFECTIONARY [HTTP://WWW.NANONA.CO.JP](http://www.nanona.co.jp)
2. "OH" AS IN OH SADAHARU

SO IT BEGINS
WITH THE FIRST
NEW MEMBER!!
AND ONLY 1 MORE DAY
UNTIL THE 2ND ROUND
OF REGIONAL MATCHES

SEVEN STAR STORIES
TRANS RIAS
EDITS CRINALE
HTTP://SEVENSTARSTORIES.BLOGSPOT.COM

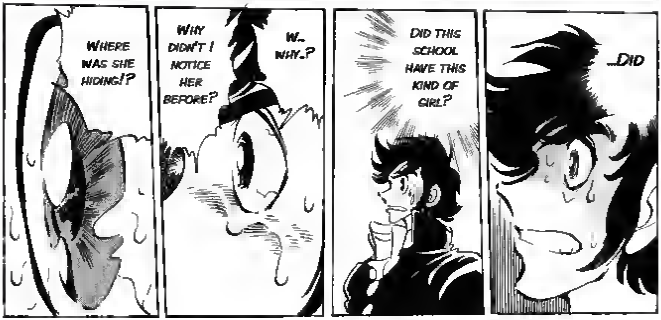
BY ANY MEANS NEEDED, THEY MUST GATHER ENOUGH PLAYERS BY TOMORROW, NO MATTER WHAT!
THE REMAINING PLAYERS CAN'T ATTEND THE MATCH BECAUSE THEY FAILED THEIR MIDTERMS!
BANNER: BASEBALL PLAYERS WANTED


THAT'S WHY I MUST MOVE QUICKLY!
THIS PREDICAMENT WILL ALSO BE SOLVED SOMEHOW!! I JUST HAVE TO DO MY BEST AND WAIT FOR THINGS TO UNFOLD!!



CHAPTER 8
SUNSET OF BETRAYAL

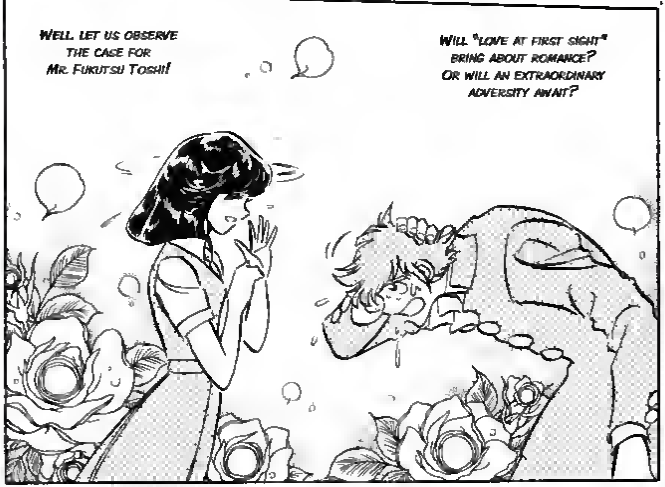
I WAS RUNNING TOO FAST!
I'M SORRY...
ARE...
ARE YOU ALL-RIGHT?
I WASN'T LOOKING AHEAD EITHER.
OH NO.

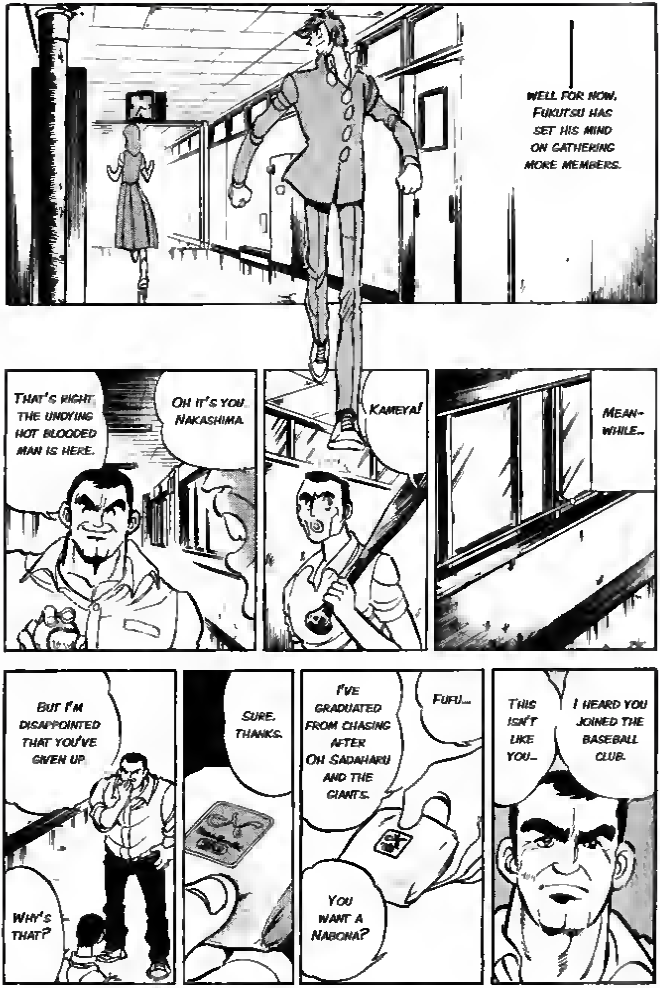

WHERE WAS SHE HIDING!?
WHY DIDN'T I NOTICE HER BEFORE?
W.. WHY..?
DID THIS SCHOOL HAVE THIS KIND OF GIRL?
..DID

"LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT" DOESN'T ONLY EXIST IN FICTION AND SCIENCE FICTION!!
THOUSANDS HAVE EXPERIENCED IT BEFORE!
AND MILLIONS OF PEOPLE ACKNOWLEDGE IT IN REALITY!
HOWEVER...

IT CAN HAPPEN TO SOMEONE WHO JUST GOT MARRIED.
THAT'S WHY IT'S SUCH A SCARY THING
THERE IS STILL NO EXPLANATION AS TO WHY IT HAPPENS!!
IT CAN STILL FORCE ITS WAY IN!!
ONE WAY OR ANOTHER...
OR FOR SOMEONE WHO HAS DEVOTED HIS YOUTH TO SOMETHING, AND THERE EXISTED NOTHING ELSE THAT CAN SWAY HIM...
DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE STORY OF "THE MONKEY'S PAW"?
IN ORDER FOR THAT WISH TO BE GRANTED, YOU HAVE TO PAY A HORRENDOUS COMPENSATION—
IT'S SOMETHING THAT CAN GRANT YOU ANYTHING YOU WISH FOR, BUT—
THE MONKEY'S PAW!!

LET'S DARE TO ASK!!


WELL LET US OBSERVE THE CASE FOR MR. FUKUTSU TOSHI!
WILL "LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT" BRING ABOUT ROMANCE? OR WILL AN EXTRAORDINARY ADVERSITY AWAIT?

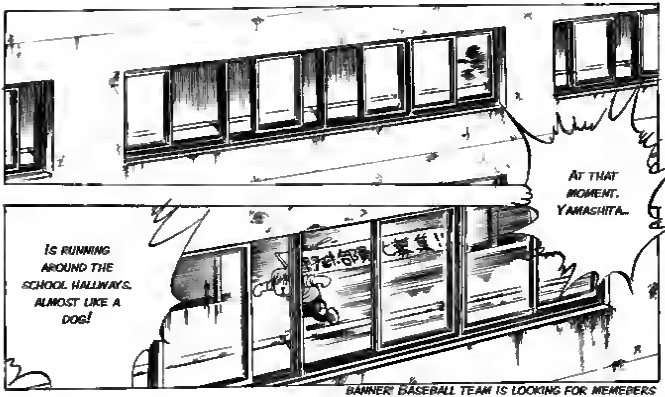

WELL FOR NOW, FUKUTSU HAS SET HIS MIND ON GATHERING MORE MEMBERS.
MEAN-WHILE...
KAMEYA!
OH IT'S YOU NAKASHIMA.
THAT'S RIGHT THE UNDYING HOT BLOODED MAN IS HERE.
I HEARD YOU JOINED THE BASEBALL CLUB.
THIS ISN'T LIKE YOU...
FUFU...
I'VE GRADUATED FROM CHASING AFTER OH SADAHARU AND THE GIANTS.
YOU WANT A NABONA?
SURE. THANKS.
BUT I'M DISAPPOINTED THAT YOU'VE GIVEN UP.
WHY'S THAT?

Then why are you in this crappy school's baseball team, being a so-called "player"?
Now you're just wasting your time and being a so-called "pebble on the street"
You are the so-called "superfan of Oh Sadaharu"
The so-called "man who knows the most about Oh Sadaharu in Japan"
Answer me, Kameya!
Can you be satisfied with that?
Up until now...
I have tried to become like Oh...
I ate Nabona, which he recommended on TV...
And remembered the taste of the "poem of the forest"...
And recently J.O!!
Just as expected from an Oh Sadaharu-endorsed product!
Great!
ハーハッ
ゴクゴクゴクゴク
J.O
J.O

Oh's spirit! His way of living!!
I am now aiming for...
But I've finally graduated!
They will aim to be the 3rd!
And for the kids who will see me on TV...
Ah...
Aaaah!
I am aiming to be Oh the 2nd!!
In other words, the 2nd Oh!
Oh's legacy will continue on forever!!

FATHER...
...AND SON...
WELL YOU COULD SAY WE ARE LIKE FATHER AND SON.
ME AND OH...
I CAN SEE IT...
CAN YOU SEE THAT TOO?
THE MOMENT THAT HE PASSES DOWN THAT GIANTS #1 JERSEY ON TO ME!
THAT MOMENT...
OH AND HIS #1 JERSEY...
DAMN... DAMNIT! I CAN SEE THAT TOO!!
CON-TINUE ON FOR-EVER !!

非常
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT?
DAMN... YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN BE ANOTHER OH!?
WHEN HE HAS HIT 756 HOMERUNS...
SOONER OR LATER I'LL CATCH UP AND OVERTAKE HIM!
THAT'S RIGHT. I'M A THAT KIND OF FOOL.
はっはっは
THAT'S ABSURD!
AND BE KNOWN TO EVERYONE AS OH THE 2ND.
ギリッ
I WILL BE HITTING MY 868TH!
I ALSO...
WANT TO BE A FOOL LIKE THAT!!
SO COOL...
SO GREAT...
SO GREAT...
……



BANNER: BASEBALL TEAM IS LOOKING FOR MEMEBERS

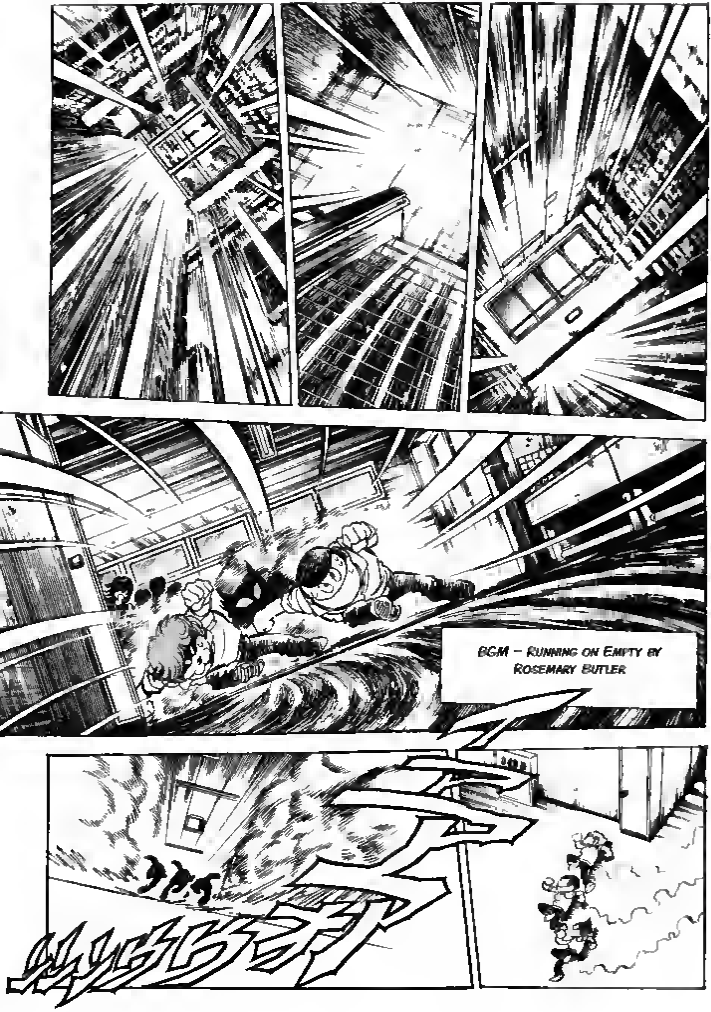
BANNER: TV (NHK) WILL ALSO BE THERE

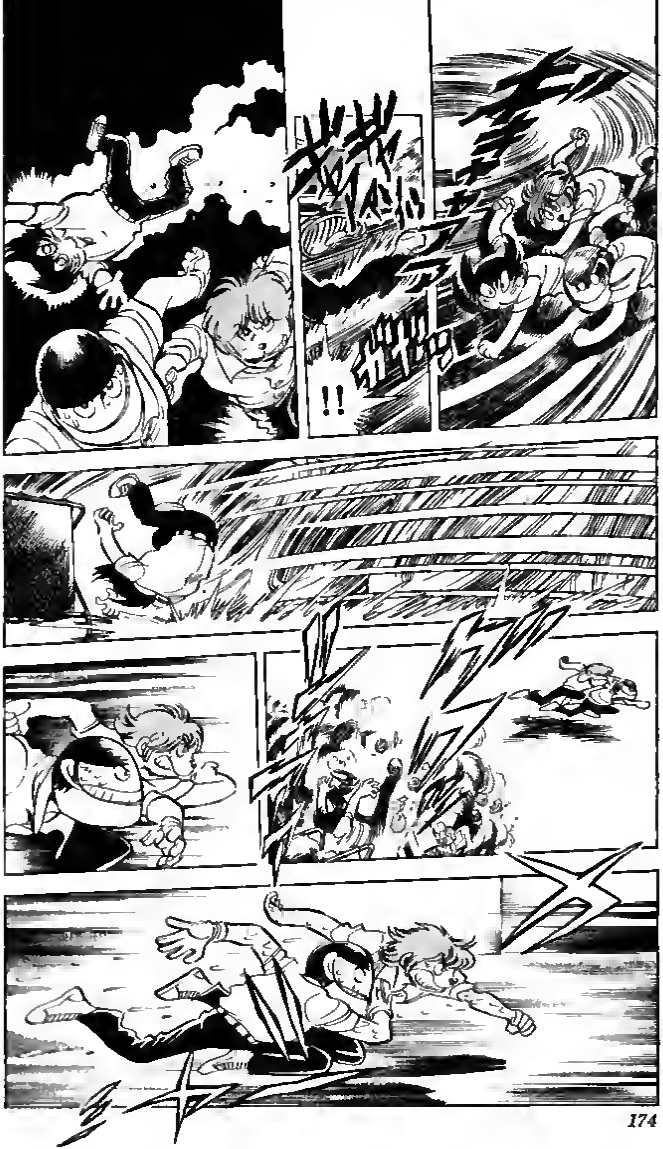
BANNER: YOU ARE THIS SUMMER'S MAIN CHARACTER!

BANNER: YOU TOO CAN GO TO KOSHIEN!!

LOOK, ONCE THE PRINCIPAL HAS DISAPPEARED FROM THAT CORNER, WE START!
THE GOAL IS 5 LAPS INSIDE THE SCHOOL!
OK!

ドクン
ドクン
ドクン


BGM – Running on Empty by Rosemary Butler
ハッハッハッ



At that moment, Taira Tahahiko and Yamane Kotaro agree to join the team!
Yamashita Tetsuo won in a photo finish!
暗室
Fukutsu—
SIGN: DARK ROOM
Come in.
Shin-Yashiki
Who told you?

Give me the negatives.
2-6
Give me a moment
.....
Yeah..
Is monochrome alright?
One volume is 400 yen. You buying?
Oh.. no...
Somehow I feel that I shouldn't step into that world...
We do a daily popularity contest for all the girls in this school.
Useful eh?
What do you mean by "useful"?
And I also have this.
Original Contest?
AKA Oricon.
But if she's in that pile there, I'll also sell you her picture.
I don't know which girl's picture you took-

FUFUFU HAHAHA!
WAHAHA-HAHA!
FUKUTSU HAS DEFINITELY CHANGED HIS FOCUS BECAUSE OF A GIRL!

FUKUTSU!
WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM!
WHO ARE YOU?
MY NAME IS KATSUKI TSUYOSHI
WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH US?
JUST TELL HIM THAT I'M HINODESYO'S CAPTAIN '82 AND HE'LL UNDERSTAND!
OH NOTHING MUCH... I JUST HEARD A RUMOR THAT YOUR TEAM ONLY HAS FOUR MEMBERS NOW
SO I'VE COME TO GIVE MY WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT!

CAPTAIN!
THANKS FOR COMING ALL THIS WAY THEN...
-AND JUST TELL HIM I SAID THAT!
ガラガラ...
I WON'T TOLERATE ANY DELAYS WHEN IT COMES TO HAVING A REAL MATCH WITH OUR TEAM.
MAKE SURE YOU GATHER SOME NEW MEMBERS...
I WAS WAITING.
YO, FUKUTSU!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
THANKS...
OH?
BUT WHAT'S WITH THAT FACE?!
I THOUGHT YOU WOULD BE ALL FIRED UP BECAUSE OF THE NEW MEMBERS YOU'VE GATHERED.

It's really none of your business.
Right now, exactly like that!
You have the eyes of a coward that doesn't care what the result is!
You sure like to talk a lot.
2
However!
When a man is focused on only one thing, he has a certain aura about him!
If Fukutsu loses his motivation, I will be the one to light that fire back under him!
The captain told me that–
We'll decide this with three pitches!
Let me show you what a loser you are right now!
Let's go outside!

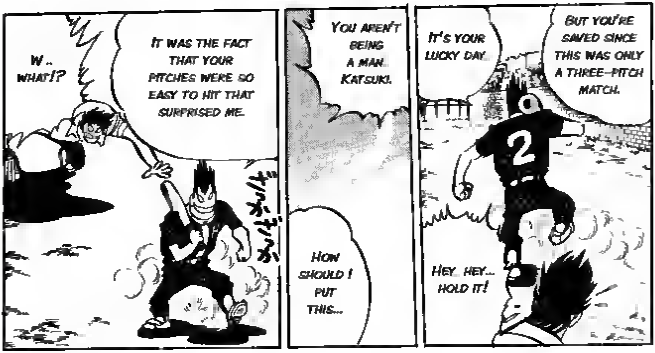
UUUH!

That's right...

It's true that Fukutsu is starting to rot...
But it hasn't affected his abilities yet.
Because he hasn't noticed it yet.
One day he will fall down so hard that can't bounce back.
And right now, that sign hasn't appeared yet...

I WIN, KATSUKI
WHAT'S WRONG?

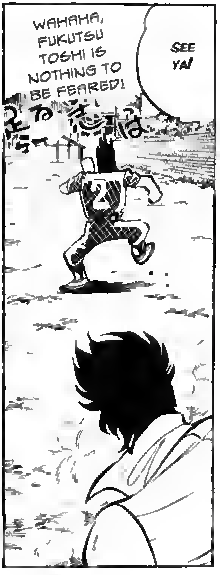
BUT I'VE SEEN THROUGH YOUR TRICKS!! YOUR 4TH ONE WILL BE KNOCKED STRAIGHT OUT!!
YOU'VE GOT GOOD PITCHES.
FURUFURU...


W.. WHAT!?
IT WAS THE FACT THAT YOUR PITCHES WERE SO EASY TO HIT THAT SURPRISED ME.
YOU AREN'T BEING A MAN, KATSUKI.
HOW SHOULD I PUT THIS...
IT'S YOUR LUCKY DAY.
BUT YOU'RE SAVED SINCE THIS WAS ONLY A THREE-PITCH MATCH.
HEY, HEY... HOLD IT!

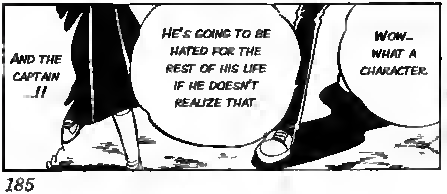
CAPTAIN!
THAT'S RIGHT! SHOW HIM YOU'RE THE MAN!
TOO BAD I WAS TAKING IT EASY ON YOU!
IF I WAS SERIOUS I COULD'VE HIT THOSE...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "TOO BAD"?
GET SERIOUS!
AREN'T YOU GOING TO ADMIT YOUR DEFEAT?
WHY WOULD I ADMIT THAT I LOST WHEN I HAVEN'T?
おいおい
IT MIGHT SEEM FROM YOUR AND YOUR TEAMMATES' POINT OF VIEW THAT I'VE LOST...
BUT IF YOU LOOK AT THE BIG PICTURE, IT'S CLEAR THAT I'VE WON!
WHAT!?
THAT'S BULLSHIT!

HANDS OFF!

I REMEMBER NOW ..!!
WASN'T HE HERE TO ENCOURAGE US?
WHY DID HE COME IN THE FIRST PLACE?


WAHAHA, FUKUTSU TOSHI IS NOTHING TO BE FEARED!
SEE YA!

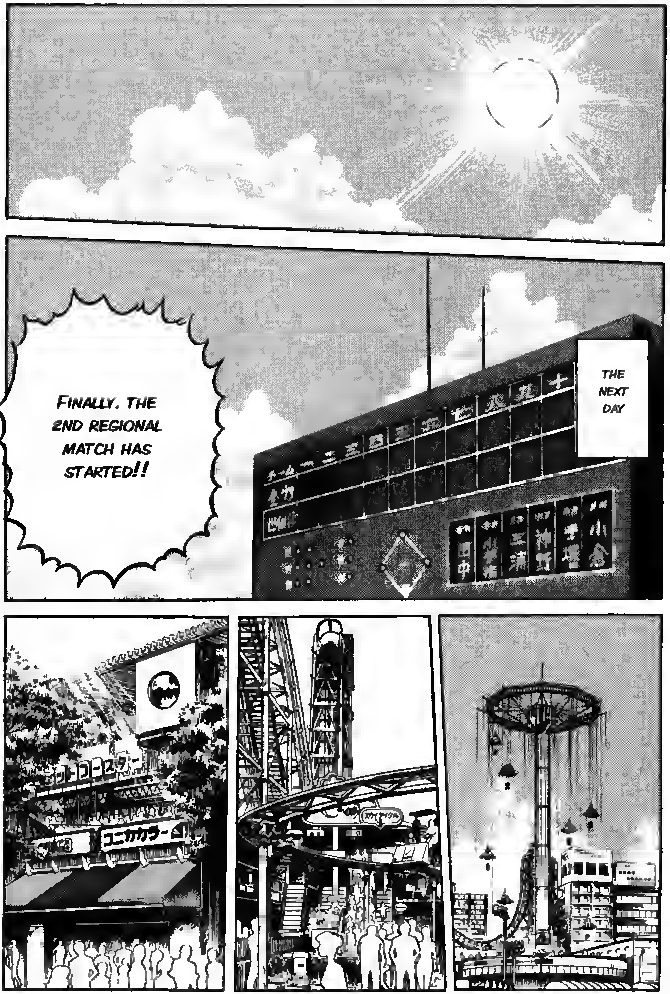
HE IS A GUY THAT HAS NEVER REALIZED HIS OWN DEFEAT SINCE HIS BIRTH!
THAT GUY... PEOPLE CALL HIM "SORE LOSER KATSUKI"


AND THE CAPTAIN ...!!
HE'S GOING TO BE HATED FOR THE REST OF HIS LIFE IF HE DOESN'T REALIZE THAT.
WOW... WHAT A CHARACTER.

I WON THE MATCH...
BUT ALL I SENSE IS THE ANGUISH FROM LOSING!!
WHY...
W-WHY?
WHAT SHOULD I DO!?
WHAT SHOULD I...
JUST WHAT SHOULD I DO!?

UM...
OH...
I... DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY..
BUT PLEASE CHEER UP.
I PERSONALLY THINK THAT YOU'VE WON.

Please cheer up! We've gathered enough members!
We now have 10 players! We even have players to substitute with!
Captain!
Captain!
And two mysterious new members that someone brought along.
Yamashita scouted Yamane Kotaro and Taira Tanamiko. Kameya Mannen brought Nakajima Shigeru
.....
Captain!!
That's right..
Ah..

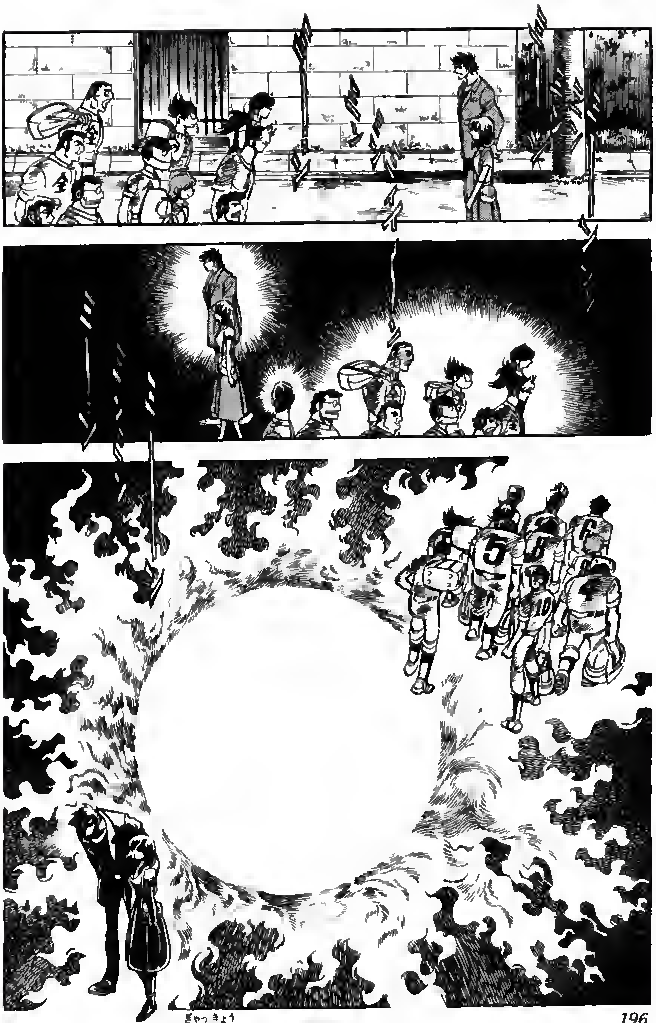

FINALLY, THE 2ND REGIONAL MATCH HAS STARTED!!
THE NEXT DAY

UWA HAHA HAHA!!
WHY ISN'T THE CAPTAIN COMING!?
I DON'T KNOW!
I CALLED HIS HOUSE BUT NO ONE PICKED UP!
LET'S JUST DO OUR BEST FOR NOW!!
IS MY TRUE ABILITY!
UWA
HAHAHA!
THIS IS MY ABILITY!
HOW IS IT?
THIS...
YOU SEE THIS?
THE GIRL THAT I'M WITH RIGHT NOW SHE'S REALLY CUTE!
HOW IS IT?

キャアアア
ドオオ
DAMN IT...
THE NIGHT BEFORE
.....
AT THIS RATE, ANYTHING I DO WILL BE USELESS!
I DEFINITELY WON THAT BUT...
I WON...
WHAT SHOULD I DO...
I FEEL SO TIRED ALL OF A SUDDEN...
UUUUU
UUUUUU

AH..!!
OH?
LET'S GO, JOSH ＊!!
I HAVE..
AN IMPOR-TANT MATCH -
TO-MOR-ROW..
THAT..
BUT..
AH.. UM.. AMUSEMENT PARK..? TOMORROW..?
フレキシ

はあ
ふう
はあ
ふう
IN THE END, THE CAPTAIN NEVER SHOWED UP.
GOOD THING TODAY'S OPPONENT JUST HAPPENED TO BE WEAKER THAN US.
LET'S GO VISIT HIM.
I'M WORRIED...



逆境(ぎゃっきょう)ナイン2／おわり

SEVEN STAR STORIES
TRANS RIAS
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CHAPTER 9

BOTTOM OF THE PIT

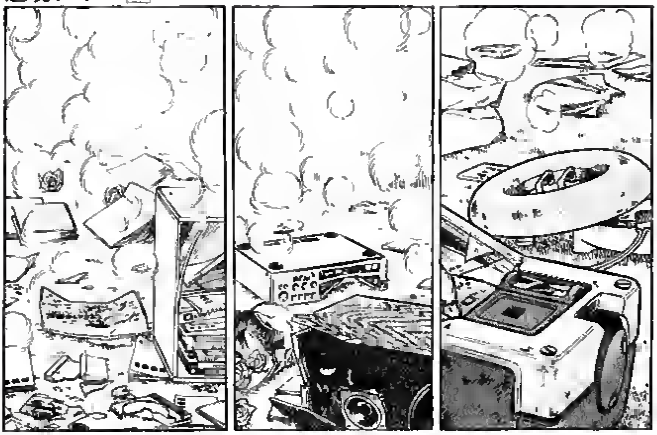
AT THAT MOMENT
WOOOOHHH!

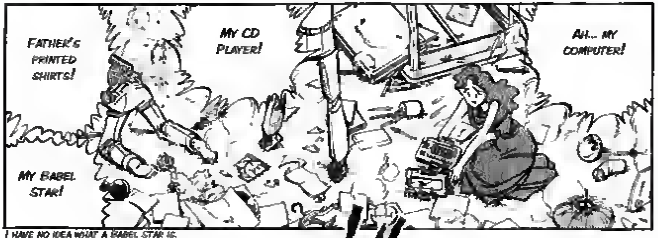
FUKUTSU IS TEARING UP HIS ROOM!
UUU-RY-AAAAAA!!

ガラガラガラ
ドーン
うおあ
おおお
バサバサ
ドドド
ドドド

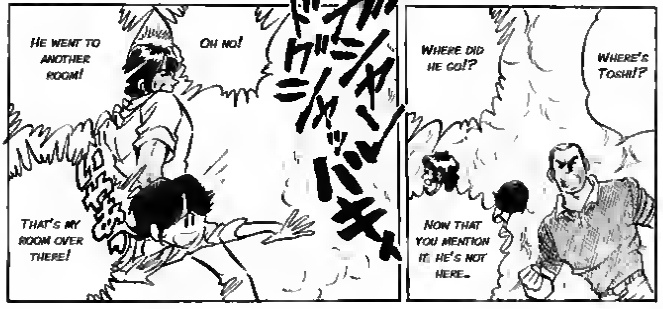
ドカドカドカ
ドドドドドド
ゲキゲキゲキ
?
It's so noisy!
What's Toshi doing upstairs?
What!?
Brother To is breaking things in his room!
It's a hot blooded noise.
This isn't normal...

SO WE ALL THOUGHT THAT WE COULD JUST LEAVE OUR STUFF IN THERE!
THAT GUY'S JUST A BASEBALL-CRAZY IDIOT AND NEVER USES HIS ROOM...
THIS ISN'T GOOD!
THIS ISN'T FUNNY I LEFT THE CD PLAYER I BOUGHT IN HIS ROOM!
I ALSO LEFT A BUNCH OF THINGS IN HIS ROOM!
ドドド



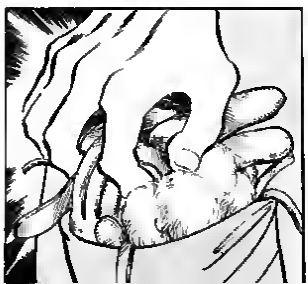


I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT A BABEL STAR IS.


HE WENT TO ANOTHER ROOM!
OH NO!
ガシャン ドゴン バキ
THAT'S MY ROOM OVER THERE!
WHERE DID HE GO!?
WHERE'S TOSHI!?
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, HE'S NOT HERE.

KYAA— MY ROOM!
AUUU
TOSHI. STOP IT!
TELL US WHY YOU'RE DOING THIS!

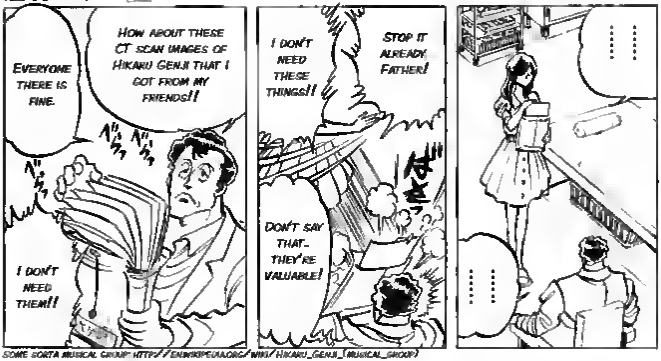
ふーっ…
ふーっ…



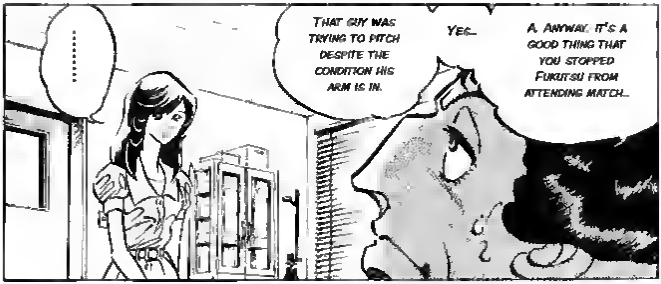
TOSHI…!?
GUKYA RUUU!

GRANDPA, WHAT IS THIS?
THIS... THIS IS...
?!?
?
?
JAK
HE DISMANTLED HIS LEFT HANDED GLOVE!!
TOSHI YOU...
UWAH!
WHAT'S WRONG?
WHAT'RE YOU DOING? HURRY!!
EVERYONE STOP HIM!
HE HAS COMPLETELY SNAPPED!
STOP HIM BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

OH, WELCOME BACK.
I'M HOME!
DID YOU MANAGE TO STOP FUKUTSU FROM ATTENDING THE MATCH?
HOW DID IT GO, MARIKO?
I'LL GIVE YOU THIS AS A GIFT
BUT..
YEAH, THAT WENT WELL.
REALLY? THAT'S GOOD.
IT'S AN IMAGE OF THE CT SCAN THAT I DID ON YOUR PET CATS AND DOGS.
THEY'RE DOING FINE.
?


How about these CT scan images of Hikaru Genji that I got from my friends!!
Everyone there is fine.
I don't need them!!
I don't need these things!!
Stop it already, Father!
Don't say that.. they're valuable!
.....
.....

SOME KORTA MUSICAL GROUP. HTTP://EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/HIKARU_GENJI_(MUSICAL_GROUP)

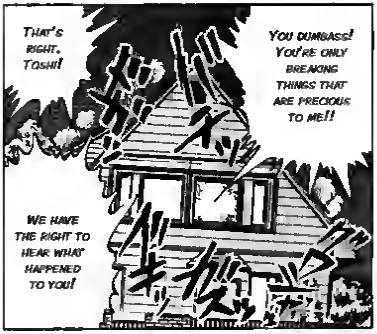

.....
That guy was trying to pitch despite the condition his arm is in.
Yes..
A, anyway, it's a good thing that you stopped Fukutsu from attending match..

Mariko, what happened?
About that..?
About that..
It's not good to overdo it. You have to give your body a rest when it needs one.
Please refer to volume 1!
He tried before to pitch with a broken arm.
Good thing the match was rained out that day..

YOU... WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO TO YOUR LEFT ARM!?
BIG BROTHER!
STOP IT, TOSHI! LET GO OF THAT KNIFE!
LET GO!!

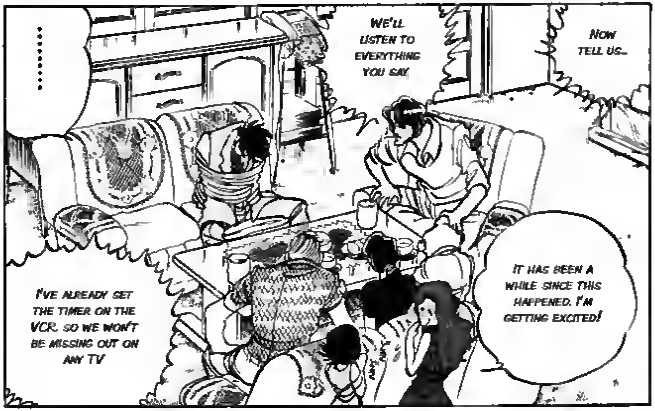
THE ONLY THING I CAN DO IS BREAK ALL THE THINGS PRECIOUS TO ME...
THIS IS THE ONLY THING I CAN DO!

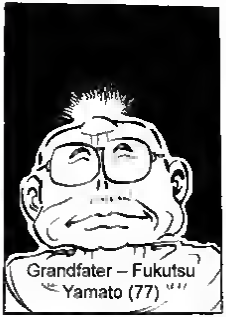
LEAVE ME ALONE!
WE CAN'T DO THAT! EVEN IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, WE ARE FAMILY!
MOM— GET US SOME TEA!
OK!


YOU DUMBASS! YOU'RE ONLY BREAKING THINGS THAT ARE PRECIOUS TO ME!!
THAT'S RIGHT, TOSHI!
WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO HEAR WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU!

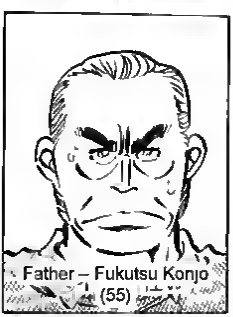
……

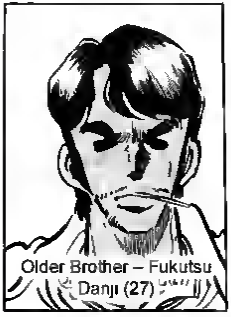
YOUR LEFT ARM IS ALREADY INJURED, RIGHT?
TOSHI…


……
WE'LL LISTEN TO EVERYTHING YOU SAY.
NOW TELL US…
I'VE ALREADY SET THE TIMER ON THE VCR, SO WE WON'T BE MISSING OUT ON ANY TV
IT HAS BEEN A WHILE SINCE THIS HAPPENED. I'M GETTING EXCITED!


Grandfater – Fukutsu
Yamato (77)

Mother – Fukutsu
Nadeshiko (secret)


Father – Fukutsu Konjo
(55)


Older Brother – Fukutsu
Danji (27)

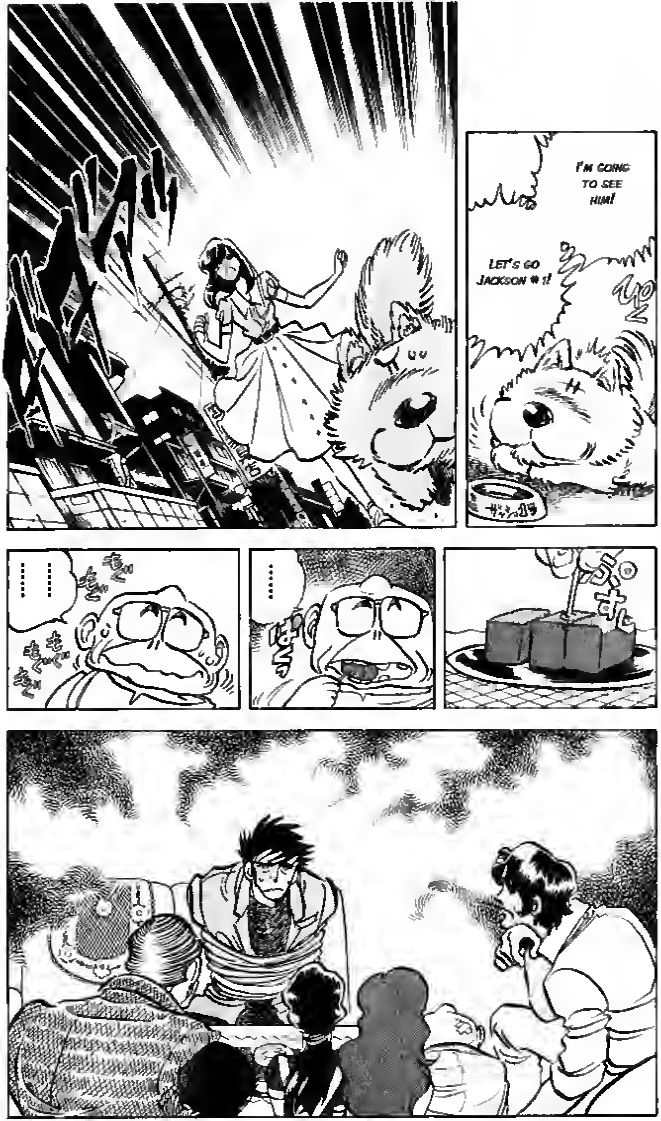
Older Sister – Fukutsu
Himiko (25)

Little Sister – Fukutsu
Otome (Middle 2)

ACTUALLY...

ABOUT THAT...
IT PROBABLY TURNED OUT TO BE SOMETHING BIG!
EVERYONE PROBABLY MISUNDERSTOOD US!
WHAT!?
THE OTHER MEMBERS SAW YOU TWO ON A DATE!?
AND I'M SUCH A CUTE GIRL... ONE THAT YOU WOULD CHOOSE INSTEAD OF BASEBALL...
THEY DEFINITELY TOOK IT THE WRONG WAY!
IT WOULD BE WEIRD IF THEY DIDN'T!
WELL, THAT'S WHAT PEOPLE ARE LIKE.
ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY'RE STILL YOUNG.
B... BUT...
THAT WAS JUST A MISUNDERSTANDING...
ANYWAY, FOR A STRONG WILLED GUY LIKE HIM TO HAVE LOST HIS DUEL AND BROKE HIS ARM...
AND IF HE ALSO FELT THAT HE BETRAYED HIS FRIENDS...
WHEN DID YOU TAKE THIS!?
MY CT SCAN!?
YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT FUKUTSU RIGHT?

MAKIKO, DID YOU FORGET? HE ACTUALLY WON THAT DUEL!
HE'S THAT KIND OF MAN
HE'LL TAKE RESPONSIBILITY EVEN IF IT WAS JUST A MISUNDERSTANDING!
.....
!!
OOPS. I'M A DOCTOR, BUT I STARTED BOXING ALL OF A SUDDEN...
HIS YOUTHFULNESS IS THE SOURCE OF HIS POWER, BUT AT THE SAME TIME IT CAN BE THE DEATH OF HIM!
TOO YOUNG!


I'M GOING TO SEE HIM!
LET'S GO JACKSON ＊!!
……
……

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You struck out your opponent but he refused to accept that fact...
I see...
I under-stand!
Brother -
That's right...
Listen, Toshi! Today in front of the train station...
Brother !
Let me say this now...
I completely understand that feeling, Toshi!
I'm actually on probation for two weeks!
My policeman blood made me catch that guy in a flash!
I saw a pickpocket in action...

I DEFINITELY SAW IT!
CAN YOU REALLY GET AWAY WITH ANYTHING AS LONG AS THERE'S NO PROOF!?
HEH HEH HEH. THEN I'LL EXCUSE MYSELF...
STOP IT, FUKUTSU! WE DON'T HAVE ANY EVIDENCE!
HE MUST'VE PASSED IT TO HIS ACCOMPLICE!
BUT HE DIDN'T HAVE THE WALLET ON HIM!
WHAT A TERRIBLE WAY TO MAKE A POINT!
DAN.JI
BEFORE I REALIZED IT, MY HAND WAS ALREADY IN THE POCKET OF THE OLD MAN BESIDE ME...
THEN I CAN DO IT TOO...
MY SON SAW IT!
IT'S YOU RIGHT? THE ONE WHO KEPT DRINKING OUR MILK...
WHAT!?
LISTEN, EVERYONE —
IT HAPPENED WHEN I WENT OUT FOR MY MORNING JOG...
GRAMPS?
I UNDER-STAND COM-PLETELY, DAN.JI!
BUT I UNDER-STAND!

B... BUT IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT TO THINK, THEN I'LL SHOW YOU!
WHAT!? I'VE NEVER...!
WHAT A TROUBLESOME OLD MAN!
DON'T DO IT AGAIN!
WHAT'S GOING ON, MOTHER?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, OLD MAN!?
AND THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED...
HMPH. JUST HIT ME IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT!
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE!?
I'LL TEACH YOU A LESSON YOU WON'T FORGET!

THAT'S ENOUGH!
I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN, GRANDPA! ACTUALLY, TODAY...
THAT'S RIGHT. THAT'S WHEN I GOT IT
THEN... THAT BRUISE ON YOUR HEAD...
THAT FLOWS IN THIS FAMILY... THE BLOOD WHERE PEOPLE WILL NOT SEE THE TRUTH THAT WE SEE.
THIS... IS THE BLOOD...
はは
.....
SO THEN...
WHAT HAPPENED? TELL US, TOSHI!!
AFTER THAT...

ANSWER ME! DID I WIN OR LOSE THERE?
WHY AM I THE LOSER HERE!?
DAMN! DAMN IT TO HELL!
THAT'S HOW I SAW IT...
I THINK YOU LOST BY A LITTLE BIT...
WELL, ABOUT THAT...
BUT THE ATMOSPHERE THERE... IT FELT LIKE YOU DIDN'T...
IT LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE WINNING...
OH NO, WELL...
SHIN YA- SHI- KIIIII ....

CAPTAIN!!
W.. WHAT?
YOU CAN OVERCOME ANYTHING!
EVERYONE BELIEVES IN YOU!
IF IT'S YOU, CAPTAIN..
TSUKITA..
YOU TOO..
AFTER ALL, HE'S THE VICE CAPTAIN OF HINODEGYO!!
OH BUT DON'T FRET IT. LOSING THIS LITTLE DUEL IS NOTHING TO BE EMBARRASSED ABOUT...
UWA-HAHA-HAHA!
AH-HA HA HA
UWAHA-HAHA
FU HA HA
FU..
CAPTAIN..

CRASH
AH...
CAPTAIN!

ぽたっ…
ぽたっ…
CAP…
Ah!
ばくっ!!

WHAT HAPPENED NEXT!!
I COMPLETELY KNOW THAT FEELING...
I KNOW...
WHAT?
MAYBE I WENT OVERBOARD THIS TIME...
AH THE MATCH IS TOMORROW!
AFTER THAT
MY ARM COULDN'T MOVE.
WELL JUST DO SOMETHING!
YOU MORON. THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN PITCH!
YOU HAVE A MATCH TOMORROW?
I FORBID YOU FROM GOING TO THE STADIUM TOMORROW.
LISTEN TO MY ADVICE AS A DOCTOR.
I CAN'T JUST "DO SOMETHING"!

AT LEAST TWO WEEKS.
HOW LONG UNTIL IT WILL HEAL!?
YOUR PERSONALITY TELLS ME THAT YOU WILL PITCH TOMORROW NO MATTER WHAT.
IF YOU PITCH TOMORROW THEN YOU SAY GOODBYE TO YOUR ARM FOR A YEAR.
W-WHY!?
LISTEN!
YOU FRACTURED YOUR BONES.
GO TO AN AMUSEMENT PARK OR SOMETHING.
YOU MUST NOT ATTEND THE MATCH TOMORROW.
GO TO AN AMUSEMENT PARK!!
GO TO AN AMUSEMENT PARK!!
GO TO AN AMUSEMENT PARK!!

DO YOU WANT TO GO TO AN AMUSEMENT PARK TOMORROW?
UM...

.....
.....
.....
TOSHI, WHAT'S THE ONLY GOAL THAT YOU HAVE TO REACH NO MATTER WHAT!?
KO-SHIEN, RIGHT!?
IF THAT'S SO, GO BACK AND APOLOGIZE TO YOUR TEAMMATES.
DAD...
SO EVEN IF YOU WENT BACK TO THE TEAM, YOU STILL COULDN'T PITCH FOR TWO WEEKS.
TOSHI...

Being seen by your teammates during your date is just a merit for being injured.
If that's so, then all your actions should be about that!!
No matter how many times you trip, your only goal is Koshien!
It doesn't matter!
Even if you're covered in blood or fall face first to the ground...
You can do whatever you want after you have that championship flag in your hands!
Move forward and don't look back, Toshi!
Just head towards the grand goal of yours, and ignore these small pebbles on the way!
You don't have infinite time!
Why do you try your best on these small things!?

ALRIGHT, TOSHI!
LETS ROAR!
HOOOOOOOOOOOOO!
AAAAAAAAAAAAAA!!

THAT'S RIGHT!! EVERYONE DO IT TOO!

UWA-
HAHA
HAHA!
LOOKS LIKE IT
WILL BE OKAY
ホッ

There it goes—
Even without him, we can get to Koshien.
Hmph, that traitor—
Here it is—
We can go to Koshien with just the rest of us.
We can't depend on him anymore.
Not yet, catcher boy?

.....
FUKUTSU TOSHI (#10) HAS RETURNED TO THE BASEBALL TEAM AS A BACKUP PLAYER.
YEP!
WE'LL JUST HOLD HIM ON ACCOUNT AT 10% INTEREST UNTIL HE DOES THAT
NO PROBLEM!! ONCE HE WINS THAT CHAMPIONSHIP FLAG IN KOSHIEN HE'LL BE SCOUTED AND MAKE MILLIONS!
BROTHER TO'S GONNA PAY US BACK FOR ALL THE THINGS HE BROKE, RIGHT?